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**Online: Get the latest news on the virus outbreak** » [stripes.com/coronavirus](https://www.stripes.com/coronavirus)

# STARS AND STRIPES<sup>®</sup>

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## CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

# FAR ENOUGH?

How social distancing guidelines vary across countries

By NANCY MONTGOMERY  
*Stars and Stripes*

**W**HAT'S a safe distance from others when attempting to avoid spread of the coronavirus?

The World Health Organization recommends at least a meter, or a little more than three feet. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends

six feet. German and Australian authorities split the difference.

The recommendations are all based on long-standing scientific studies of how many respiratory viruses, including coronaviruses, are transmitted. Droplets, too little to see but most too large to float, travel by cough, sneeze or speech from the nose and mouth of an infected person to another person, or to surfaces.

**SEE DISTANCE ON PAGE 5**

**U.S. Army combat medics arriving at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, for training move in formation while maintaining proper social distancing after departing from their travel bus.**

Jose Roemiguez/U.S. Army



## Acting Navy secretary apologizes for berating ousted captain

By CAITLIN DOORNBS  
*Stars and Stripes*

Acting Navy Secretary Thomas Modly quickly apologized in a public statement Monday for saying, in a speech about the USS Theodore Roosevelt the same day, that the ship's former commander was "too naive or too stupid" to lead the crew. Modly relieved Capt. Brett Crozier from command Thursday after a let-



Modly

ter the captain wrote seeking help for the coronavirus-stricken aircraft carrier was leaked to the media earlier in the week.

In his speech on board the vessel Monday afternoon in Guam, Modly said Crozier "lost sight" of the ship's mission, according to a transcript and audio recording of the speech posted online the same day.

"He compromised critical information about your status intention-

ally to draw greater attention to your situation," Modly said over the ship's internal public address system.

In a letter to The New York Times published Monday, Modly said Crozier put the nation in danger after "sensitive information about the material condition of our biggest and most powerful warship made its way out into the public arena, in the hands of our adversaries."

Crozier must have known the letter

would have gone public — otherwise, he was "either too naive or too stupid to be a commanding officer of a ship like this," Modly told sailors in his address.

The decision to relieve Crozier was not well received on the ship or by the public. A petition to reinstate Crozier on Change.org had nearly 300,000 signatures Tuesday and two congressmen and at least 17 senators

**SEE APOLOGY ON PAGE 5**

## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## US mulls 'war bonds' to fund pandemic response

*Associated Press*

The White House is considering coronavirus “war bonds” to fund the federal response to the pandemic.

Larry Kudlow, the director of the national economic council, says the federal government, like most Americans, should make the most of low interest rates.

The U.S. government has had little trouble finding people willing to lend it money so far, even without anything branded as "war bonds." It's been able to borrow at interest rates near record lows despite ballooning deficits, as investors around the world look for safe places to park cash.

In Japan, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe government Tuesday announced a \$1 trillion stimulus package to help the country to survive the economic downturn and to protect businesses and jobs.

Abe's government also declared a monthlong state of emergency for Tokyo and six other prefectures Tuesday to ramp up defenses against the spread of the coronavirus as the number of infections surges.

Hungary's prime minister announced a second package of economic measures Monday. Prime Minister Viktor Orban said that the measures would reallocate some 18% to 20% of Hungary's state budget, or as much as around \$32 billion, while raising the budget deficit from 1% of GDP to 2.7%.

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		Switzerland (Franc)	
Euro costs (April 8)	\$1.06	Thailand (Baht)	0.9274
Dollar buys (April 8)	40.89	Turkey (Lira)	6.7400
British pound (April 8)	1.26	(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance, for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United States.)	
Japanese yen (April 8)	101.61	For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates for reference only. Selling, buying currency. All figures are foreign currency to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is expressed in pounds to one euro, the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	
Commercial rates		INTEREST RATES	
British (Dinar)	0.3769	Prime rate	3.25
Bahrain (Dinar)	1.2375	Discount rate	2.25
Canada (Dollar)	1.3941	Federal funds market rate	0.05
France (Franc)	6.5472	3-month bill	0.11
Denmark (Krone)	1.2840	30-year bond	7.28
Egypt (Pound)	17.581		
Germany (Mark)	\$1.0141 (to euro)		
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7593		
Hungary (Forint)	206.90		
India (Rupee)	3.5950		
Japan (Yen)	129.50		
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3111		
Norway (Krone)	10.1467		
Philippines (Peso)	50.368		
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	4.15		
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7621		
South Korea (Won)	1.4900		

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate .....	3.25
Discount rate .....	0.25
Federal funds market rate .....	0.05
3-month bill .....	0.11
30-year bond .....	1.28

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

## WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

**WEDNESDAY IN EUROPE****THURSDAY IN THE PACIFIC**

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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## WAR/MILITARY

# Taliban exit talks, cite prisoner release issues

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN  
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghanistan's fragile peace process suffered a major blow Tuesday as the Taliban said they were breaking off talks with the government about a prisoner exchange, which is a key part of a deal the insurgents signed with the United States.

The release of prisoners by the insurgents and Kabul is one of several conditions spelled out in the U.S.-Taliban deal signed in late February, which must be met if all international forces are to withdraw from Afghanistan by next spring.

But after a week of face-to-face discussions with government negotiators, the Taliban said Tuesday they were walking away from the dialogue.

"Unfortunately, their release has been delayed under one pretext or another till now," Taliban

**‘Unfortunately, their release has been delayed under one pretext or another till now.’**

Suhail Shaheen  
Taliban spokesman

spokesman Suhail Shaheen said on Twitter, where he also said his side was pulling out.

The talks on the prisoner release faltered because the Taliban had insisted that 15 "high-level and dangerous commanders" be among those who would be freed, said Abdul Matin Bek, a member of the government's negotiating team. Although Kabul refused that condition, it was prepared to release hundreds of other detainees with ties to the Taliban, he said.

The Taliban were demonstrating a "lack of seriousness about

peace" by quitting the talks, which had reached an "important phase ahead of the release," said David Faisal, a spokesman for Afghanistan's National Security Council, without providing details. The government, on the other hand, remained committed to the peace process, he said in a tweet.

The announcement by the Taliban that it was quitting the talks came two days after the group said repeated U.S. raids and "brutal drone attacks" across Afghanistan violated the deal the insurgents signed with the Amer-

icans on Feb. 29.

That deal, which spells out the conditions that must be met if international forces are to completely withdraw from Afghanistan within 14 months, could be in jeopardy if the attacks continue, the Taliban said in a statement. One of the conditions was the release of up to 5,000 Taliban prisoners in exchange for up to 1,000 prisoners held by the insurgents; another was the convening of intra-Afghan talks immediately after the release.

United States Forces-Afghanistan described the Taliban's accusations as "baseless."

But, USFOR-A spokesman Col. Sonny Leggett said in a tweet, "We will defend our ANDSF partners if attacked, in compliance with the agreement," using an acronym for Afghanistan's security forces.

Also causing the Afghan peace process to stumble is the failure

of President Ashraf Ghani and his political rival Abdullah Abdullah to agree on which of the two of them won September's presidential election.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said last month, after failing to resolve the impasse during a lightning visit to Afghanistan, that the U.S. would withhold at least \$1 billion in aid to Afghanistan unless a solution is found.

The long row between the two men was eating away at international goodwill toward Afghanistan, the top American diplomat for South and Central Asia, Alice Wells, said this week.

"As the world gets slammed by COVID-19, with devastating economic consequences for all, donors are frustrated and fed up by personal agendas being advanced ahead of the welfare of the Afghan people," Wells tweeted Monday.

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BRENTON POYSER/U.S. Navy

## More than sea spray

Petty Officer 1st Class Jose Dondonay, right, and Petty Officer 2nd Class Susan Kit, both assigned to the littoral combat ship USS Gabrielle Giffords, check a sprinkler on the ship's flight deck during routine cleaning and maintenance Monday in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

## US delivers 128 anti-tank Javelin missiles to NATO member Estonia

Associated Press

HELSINKI — The United States says it has delivered 128 anti-tank Javelin missiles to Estonia as part of a larger contract with the Baltic NATO member and the U.S. Department of Defense.

The U.S. Embassy in Tallinn said in a statement on Thursday that "the shipment will continue to build upon Estonia's defensive

capabilities and further strengthens our nations' strategic integration" within NATO, of which Estonia has been a member since 2004.

Washington has provided Estonia, a staunch military ally, with over \$100 million in joint defense cooperation over the past few years, the U.S. Embassy said.

The FGM-148 Javelin is an infrared-guided anti-tank missile that can be carried and launched

by a single person. It is manufactured by a joint venture between Raytheon Co. and Lockheed Martin Corp.

In December, the Estonian defense ministry said the United States has allocated \$175 million in military aid to the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania for 2020.

The three countries are all NATO members and all border Russia.

## AFRICOM kills senior al-Shabab leader in Somalia

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — A senior al-Shabab leader who played a key role in plotting deadly attacks throughout East Africa has been killed in an airstrike in Somalia, U.S. Africa Command said Tuesday.

Yusuf Jiis was one of three Al-Shabab members killed in the April 2 airstrike, AFRICOM said. The strike was one of a flurry of attacks in Somalia in recent days.

Jiis was "violent, ruthless, and responsible for the loss of many innocent lives," AFRICOM commander Gen. Stephen Townsend said in a statement. "His removal makes Somalia and neighboring countries safer."

AFRICOM has launched six airstrikes in Somalia since April 2, including one on Monday in which five terrorists were killed, it said.

AFRICOM said no civilians were killed in Monday's strike on Jilib, around 230 miles south of the capital, Mogadishu, but it is investigating reports that allege there were civilian casualties.

As with any allegation of civilian casualties U.S. Africa Command receives and reviews any information it has about the incident, including any relevant information provided by third parties," it said.

AFRICOM announced last week that it will begin issuing quarterly reports on the outcomes of its investigations into civilian casualty claims as a way to boost

transparency.

To date, AFRICOM says only one civilian has been killed in its airstrike campaign in Somalia, but the human rights group Amnesty International says the number is higher. The group has reported that more than a dozen civilians have been killed in U.S. airstrikes in recent years.

AFRICOM this year intensified the pace of airstrikes in Somalia, where al-Shabab has been waging an insurgency for more than a decade. The group is weaker now than it was at its peak in 2011, when it controlled part of Mogadishu as well as the strategic port city of Kismayo, south of Jilib. Since then, an international military effort has helped push the group out of many of its former strongholds, but al-Shabab still carries out high-profile attacks in Somalia and abroad, particularly in neighboring Kenya.

The group could pose a threat well beyond East Africa, AFRICOM has warned. While al-Shabab hasn't demonstrated an ability to carry out attacks in the West, AFRICOM officials say that could change if the group is left unchecked.

"By assisting our partners in East Africa, we diminish a serious threat to Somalia as well as to the U.S. homeland," said AFRICOM spokesman Col. Christopher Karns in a statement. "Our efforts help to protect Somalis, Americans, and our international partners."

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## MILITARY

# 'It was about a 40-hour day'

Multinational airlift wing crews deliver medical supplies around the world

By KENT HARRIS  
Stars and Stripes

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — Crews from a multinational airlift wing have delivered hundreds of thousands of pounds in medical supplies to countries spanning the globe, the U.S. Air Force officer commanding the unit said Tuesday.

The Strategic Airlift Capability's Heavy Airlift Wing traveled to what under normal circumstances would be nice vacation spots. But their stays in Thailand and the Caribbean were very brief and part of a long mission to aid the global response to the coronavirus.

"It was about a 40-hour day," said U.S. Air Force Col. James Sparrow, commander of the operational element of the Papa, Hungary-based command, of a mission that also included stops in South Korea and Afghanistan before ending in Romania.

That mission, one of three ferrying protective gear for medical workers, was one the wing is well suited for.

Formed in 2008, the Strategic Airlift Capability assists European countries too small to maintain their own military transport fleet.

The wing consists of about 150 personnel that maintain and fly three C-17 Globemasters. Americans make up about a third of the wing, which also consists of personnel from nine NATO allies, Sweden and Finland.

While carrying personnel and cargo to various deployments around the globe make up a good chunk of the wing's operations



Strategic Airlift Capability

**Air Force Col. James Sparrow, a C-17 instructor pilot, has been a member of the Heavy Airlift Wing in Papa, Hungary, since 2017.**

during normal times, Sparrow said operating during a pandemic is different.

"I think it is historic in that respect," he said Tuesday in a phone interview. "I think we're extremely satisfied and very proud of what we're doing."

Besides providing member nation Romania with 270,000 pounds of medical goods, Sparrow said another trip sent intensive-care beds and equipment from Eindhoven, Netherlands, to the Dutch half of Saint Martin, in the Caribbean.

"It tripled their capacity on the island," Sparrow said.

He said he couldn't discuss future missions, but there are several more to support the response to COVID-19 in the planning stages.

"We think this is our bread and butter for the near future," Sparrow said.

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Royal Netherlands Defense Forces photos

**Crew members load mobile intensive care beds and equipment for a flight to Saint Martin at Eindhoven Airport, Netherlands, on Sunday.**



**One of the Strategic Airlift Capability's three C-17 Globemasters is loaded with cargo**

## Air Force to test high-energy lasers to take down drones

By TOM ROEDER

The (Colorado Springs, Colo.) Gazette

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Back in December, tales of drones harassing northeastern Colorado were heard.

If they ever came back, the Air Force may have a new way to zap them from the sky. The service announced Monday it is ready to test its first high-energy lasers for use against enemy drones overseas.

"(Troops) will utilize this system as an operational asset against small unmanned aircraft systems for the duration of the field assessment," said Michael Jirjis, who headed development of the laser for the Air Force Research Laboratory in Ohio.

The Air Force said it had no involvement in swarms of drones spotted over ranchland in sparsely-populated areas near Colo-

rado's border with Kansas and Nebraska. But the service has been viewing drones with growing alarm for years.

At F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyo., the Air Force has a program focusing on drones that could pose a security risk to domestic bases. The new lasers, with models under consideration from the Air Force lab and defense contractor Raytheon, would take aim at drones that have already proven worrisome in the Persian Gulf.

Iranian drones were tied to a 2019 attack on Saudi oil production facilities and have been used by Islamic State militants to drop grenades. While the Air Force hasn't announced where the new lasers will first be tested, the Persian Gulf is all but certain, thanks to those threats.

The Air Force has been experimenting

with lasers in a number of programs since the 1980s. One sought powerful lasers as part of the Star Wars program during the Reagan years, but those weapons never came to fruition.

In the early 2000s, the Air Force and the Missile Defense worked together to place a chemically powered laser aboard a Boeing 747 jet. That work was abandoned after it went billions of dollars over budget.

Now, the military is looking at more modest solid-state lasers, which could solve a lot of problems in the future.

Relatively cheap and lightweight, the lasers convert electricity into focused beams of light that destroy targets by melting them or blinding their sensors.

Lasers are cheaper to fire than one-time-use missiles, faster than bullets, and create little debris on training ranges.

The new generation of lasers has drawn field tests from the Army, Air Force and Navy in recent years.

"The overseas field assessments are allowing us to understand directed energy as a capability against drones," Jirjis said. "This gives us a better picture of the military utility, reliability and sustainability, training requirements and implementation with existing base defense."

Key questions for researchers include whether lasers are powerful enough to take down targets and fast enough to deal with several incoming drones at the same time.

If the lasers don't work out, researchers are also looking into using microwave beams to take down drones. That weapon would do to a drone what a microwave oven does to a frozen burrito.

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Distance: Guidelines changing as more data becomes available

### FROM FRONT PAGE

"A single cough can release hundreds of droplets, a single sneeze thousands, at speeds of up to 50-200 miles per hour; each droplet contains millions of viral particles..." said a 2013 paper published in the journal of the Istituto Superiore di Sanita, Italy's public health authority.

But just how far droplets travel before gravity drags them down differs within the results of numerous studies of other viruses. World distancing guidelines are their grounding in those studies, rather than controlled results on the virus that causes COVID-19, which is too new for such a body of findings.

The CDC found that the SARS virus, which killed more than 8,000 people in 2002 and 2003, traveled up to 3 feet, its website says. But for COVID-19, "spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another

(within about 6 feet)," the CDC website says.

The CDC did not return emails and a phone call requesting comment on the distancing guidelines.

Meanwhile, a flu study found that a 3-foot distance limited the chances of contact with the virus, but wouldn't prevent it in some cases.

The April 2013 study in *The Journal of Infectious Diseases* took air samples at 1 foot, 3 feet and 6 feet and found that 26 of 61 flu-infected patients released virus into the room's air. How far it traveled varied and some patients released far more virus than others.

"We found infectious amounts of virus up to 6 feet from patients during non-aerosol-generating patient-care activities, predominantly in small particles," the study said.

Some epidemiologists say



JOSHUA KARSTEN/Stars and Stripes

### Customers practice social distancing at Naval Support Activity Bahrain, on March 25.

smaller droplets can travel farther than that.

But in some areas, even maintaining a 6-foot distance may not be possible. The WHO is sticking with its 1-meter guideline.

"Individual countries are free to go beyond this, as some have and as they are free to do," James Allworth, a WHO spokesman said in an email.

U.S. Army Garrison Italy started with a meter, the official Italian recommendation, and distancing

designations in the base exchange reflect that.

"But at the end of the day, people are exceeding that," garrison spokesman Jim Brooks said.

Guidance regarding the coronavirus changes frequently as more data comes to light. After weeks of saying healthy people should not wear face masks in public, for example, the CDC last week said people should wear cloth masks. That reversal was due to emerging data that many people infected

with the virus have no symptoms.

Col. Rodney Cadden, chief of Preventive Medicine Services, Public Health Command Europe, said people should stay as far from others as possible — the farther, the better.

"I would recommend staying 6 feet apart from anyone," he said. "If you can stay 12 feet apart, I recommend you stay 12 feet apart."

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# Apology: Modley says he does not think Crozier 'is naive nor stupid'

### FROM FRONT PAGE

have signed letters asking the Defense Department Investigator General to look into Crozier's firing.

Crozier, in a four-page letter to senior military officials March 30, said "sailors do not need to die" because "we are not at war."

The San Francisco Chronicle first reported the contents of Crozier's letter March 31.

Addressing the Roosevelt crew, Modley said this notion bothered him the most.

"Let me tell you something, the only reason we are dealing with this right now is a big authoritative regime called China was not forthcoming about what was happening with this virus and they

put the world at risk to protect themselves and to protect their reputations," Modley said during his speech.

China is listed among the U.S.'s strategic competitors in the National Defense Strategy, and much of the Navy's missions in the Western Pacific challenge Chinese claims to islands and reefs in the ocean.

Modley told sailors Crozier's letter created a "big controversy in Washington, D.C., and across the country about a martyr [commanding officer] who wasn't getting the help he needed."

In his apology, Modley said that he does not think Crozier "is naive nor stupid."

"Capt. Crozier is smart and

passionate," Modley said. "I believe, precisely because he is not naive and stupid, that he sent his alarming email with the intention of getting it into the public domain in an effort to draw public attention to the situation on his ship."

Crozier's letter was uncalled for because Modley's chief of staff had been in contact with Crozier, who "expressed no alarm to him at all," but said he was "impatient with the pace of moving sailors off the ship," Modley wrote in his letter to *The New York Times*.

"Bottom line, the public disclosure of Capt. Crozier's letter had no impact on the flow of support to the ship," Modley wrote. "The crew of the ship was already being tested as rapidly as possible, iso-

lated as necessary, and moved off the ship to quarantine."

The Navy has now secured nearly 3,700 individual rooms to isolate sailors in across Guam, Modley wrote.

On Friday, sailors filled the Roosevelt's hangar bay, clapping and chanting Crozier's name as he walked off the ship for the last time. Crozier later tested positive with coronavirus, according to a Sunday report in *The New York Times*.

"I understand you love him... I understand that you may be angry with me for the rest of your lives [for ousting Crozier]," Modley told sailors in his speech. "Being angry is not your duty. Your duty is to each other, to this ship, and

to the nation that built it for you to protect them."

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# IG tapped for virus rescue oversight sidelined

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump has sidelined the Pentagon's inspector general, who has been tapped to chair a special oversight board of the \$2.2 trillion economic package intended to help businesses and individuals affected by the coronavirus, officials said Tuesday.

Glenn Fine, the acting Defense Department inspector general and a veteran watchdog, had been selected by peers last month for the position. Now it's unclear who will oversee the rescue law.

The move threatens to upend the rigorous oversight that Democrats in Congress had demanded of the huge sums of money being pumped into the American economy because of the virus.

"The president now has engaged in a series



Fine

of actions designed to neuter any kind of oversight of his actions and that of the administration during a time of national crisis, when trillions of dollars are being allocated to help the American people," Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff of California told *The Associated Press*.

The action follows

Trump's late-night firing on Friday of Michael Atkinson, the intelligence community inspector general who forwarded to Congress a whistleblower complaint that ultimately led to the president's impeachment, as well as Trump's public condemnation of the acting Health and

Human Services watchdog over a survey of hospitals about the coronavirus response.

Michael Horowitz, the Justice Department inspector general and chair of a council of watchdogs, had moved quickly last month to appoint Fine the head of the new coronavirus oversight board.

But Fine will no longer be able to serve in the role because Trump has nominated a replacement inspector general at the Pentagon and appointed an acting one to serve in Fine's place, according to an email from an assistant Defense Department inspector general that was obtained by *The Associated Press*.

The demotion disqualifies Fine from serving on the oversight board, which was created by Congress to be the next oversight for coronavirus funding. He will instead revert to the position of principle deputy inspector general.

## VIRUS OUTBREAK



RAFAEL ÁVELAR/U.S. Navy

A hospital corpsman checks the temperature of a sailor visiting a health clinic at Naval Air Facility Atsugi on March 26.

## Navy bases near Tokyo place restrictive rules on movement

By CATLIN DOORNBOS  
Stars and Stripes

**YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan** — The declaration of a public health emergency by U.S. Forces Japan on Monday prompted commanders at two naval bases near Tokyo to tighten restrictions on sailors and civilians.

At Naval Air Facility Atsugi, commander Capt. Lloyd Mack implemented a shelter-in-place order Monday night to “further limit movement and potential for exposure,” he said in an announcement on the official base Facebook page Monday evening.

“Shelter-in-place does not confine anyone to their homes, barracks or off-base residences,” Mack said in a video posted to the Facebook page. “It simply restricts all unnecessary movement about the base or off base.”

The public health emergency gives commanders authority over the civilian dependents and employees, including contractors, on their facilities. Under previous restrictions, most civilians were simply encouraged to abide by travel and other limits imposed

on service members.

“These protective measures are not voluntary for civilians — they are mandatory,” he said. “They are vital to help us kill the spread of the coronavirus.”

Under Mack’s order, only “designated mission-essential personnel” should report to work, and then, only under the direction of your supervisor,” he said in the video.

Entrance to the base is limited to mission-essential personnel between 7 p.m. and 10 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and 6 p.m. to 10 a.m. on Sundays.

Civilians and service members who live off base may buy “essential goods and groceries” from facilities on base, such as the Navy Exchange and commissary, during regular business hours, Mack said in the video.

No one associated with Atsugi had tested positive for the coronavirus as of Monday, Mack said in the video.

“We need you to focus on the measures and policies we’re putting in place to ... defeat this threat,” Mack told the Atsugi community in the video.

At Yokosuka Naval Base, the USFJ declaration prompted Yokosuka authorities to allow non-essential personnel to enter base only between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. beginning Tuesday. Mission-essential personnel can enter for work purposes anytime.

Nonessential personnel will also be required to identify themselves, their sponsoring commands, their destinations and purpose for entering or leaving the base, according to an image of a form on the official base Facebook page. The form also asks for the number of contacts the subject has recently had.

Yokosuka Naval Base has been under a shelter-in-place order since March 27 after three active-duty sailors tested positive for the coronavirus within 24 hours.

The Navy has since declined to release the number of additional cases at specific installations, but the city of Yokosuka reports that two of its 18 residents who have tested positive as of Monday are base employees, according to its official website.

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## Japan declares monthlong state of emergency

Associated Press

**TOKYO** — Japan’s Prime Minister Shinzo Abe declared a monthlong state of emergency Tuesday for Tokyo and six other prefectures to ramp up defenses against the spread of the coronavirus as the number of infections surges.

But the move came in the form of a stay-at-home request — not an order — and violators will not be penalized.

The outbreak is now rampant and spreading, threatening people’s health, their daily lives and the economy, Abe said. The state of emergency is until May 6.

The state of emergency will only permit Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike and heads of the six other prefectures to do more to reinforce calls for social distancing.

“The most important thing is for each one of us to change our activity,” Abe told a government task force. He urged everyone to cut contacts with others by 70-80% for one month.

The announcement follows surges in new cases in Tokyo, including consecutive rises exceeding 100 over the weekend. By Monday, there were 1,116 confirmed cases in the metropolitan region of 14 million people. Nationwide, Japan has reported 91 deaths from COVID-19 and 3,906 confirmed cases, plus another 712 from a cruise ship that was quarantined earlier at Yokohama port near Tokyo.

Abe has been under pressure to declare a state of emergency to get better compliance with calls for social distancing amid rising alarm over the number of cases without any known contact with other patients.

Koike welcomed the emer-

gency measures, saying that she expects they “will prevail widely and deeply among the people.”

Abe’s government is thought to have delayed declaring a state of emergency out of fear of how it might hurt the economy. But as fear of the pandemic has grown, the public and medical experts have increasingly supported taking more drastic action.

The state of emergency includes a stay-at-home request, requests to close nonessential businesses and stores, guidance to schools on temporary closures and requests to cancel or postpone events and exhibits. Violators cannot be penalized unless they fail to comply with orders on providing or storing emergency relief goods, such as surgical masks and medical equipment.

Still, the state of emergency could significantly limit people’s movement around and out of the city. Takahide Kiuchi, an economist at Nomura Research Institute, said in a recent report that a state of emergency could cause consumer spending to fall nearly \$23 billion, leading to a 0.4% drop in Japan’s annual GDP.

As is true in many places, there are fears over shortages of beds and ICU units for patients with severe symptoms. Osamu Nishiida, chairman of the Japanese Society of Intensive Care Medicine, noted that Japan has only five ICU beds per 100,000 people, compared to 12 in Italy and about 30 in Germany.

Abe said that the central government has secured 25,000 beds and 8,000 ventilators. The health ministry also eased hospitalization requirements for patients with no symptoms or only slight illnesses.

## Memo directs sailors in Japan to log movements and contacts

By CATLIN DOORNBOS  
Stars and Stripes

**YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan** — U.S. Naval Forces Japan has directed sailors to keep a daily log of their movements and people with whom they have close contact, according to a memorandum Stars and Stripes obtained Tuesday.

Sailors were also told to write out all contacts and movements they’d made in the 14 days prior to the memo. The aim is to track the potential coronavirus spread should a sailor later test positive, according to the memo issued Thursday.

“In the event of a positive COVID-19 test, one of the important actions taken by medical professionals is to conduct contact tracing,” Naval Forces Japan commander Adm. Brian Fort wrote in the memo. “This information is vitally important to understand whether other personnel need to be placed in quarantine.”

Sailors who had close contact with someone who tested positive for coronavirus are placed under 14-day quarantines even if they do not present symptoms, 7th Fleet spokesman Lt. Joe Kelley told Stars and Stripes in an email last month.

“Close contact” is defined as being within six feet for a prolonged period or having direct contact with someone, such as being sneezed or coughed on, according to Fort’s memo.

Further, sailors were advised to keep “no more than 10 close contacts to include family members,” the memo said.

Fort did not provide a specific form in which the information should be tracked, but told sailors that they do not need to share their daily logs with their commanders.

“This is your personal and private information. It is only intended to be shared with medi-

cal professionals if needed for contact-tracing purposes,” Fort wrote in the memo.

At least three active-duty sailors in Japan had tested positive for the coronavirus by March 27. The Navy has since implemented a policy not to disclose the number of positive cases associated with individual installations. Instead, the numbers are lumped into the overall Navy tallies of sailors positive with the virus.

As of Monday, 436 sailors had tested positive across the service, according to the Navy’s most recent coronavirus report.

Keeping the daily logs has a

second purpose: to cause “each of us to think about our personal interactions and daily close contacts” and consider “how this virus impacts our daily norms until we have a vaccine and/or a cure,” Fort wrote in the memo.

“Everyone must recognize the incredible importance of the personal accountability role they individually play in defeating the virus,” Fort said in the memo. “Policies, procedures and protocols can abound, but all of that is not enough without individual accountability.”

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Off-base businesses in Japan feel the squeeze

BY JAMES BOLINGER  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI

Stars and Stripes

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, Japan — Junki Kaku, the owner of Poem and Good Fellows, two bars in downtown Iwakuni, pointed to the street streets of the Naka Dori district on St. Patrick's Day.

"It's like martial law here," he said. "There's no one."

Normally, American service members from nearby MCAS Iwakuni would be swarming Poem. It's the only place in Iwakuni to get Guinness beer on draft, and Kaku plays American football and wrestling on his big screen TV to keep the Americans entertained.

His businesses rely heavily on the Marines and sailors, but in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent base lockdowns, he and other proprietors across Japan who count on American customers are feeling the squeeze.

Starting March 25, when the overarching Indo-Pacific Command authorized stringent measures across military bases from Hawaii to South Korea, commanders have imposed increas-

ingly tighter restrictions to stem the coronavirus tide.

For example, many personnel living off base with their families may travel only to and from their duty stations. Bars, sit-down restaurants, karaoke joints, nightclubs and off-base theaters are off limits. Only essential trips for groceries, medical and dental appointments and similar visits are permitted.

With a declaration Monday of a public health emergency by U.S. Forces Japan, that order extends to family members and civilian employees of the Defense Department living in Tokyo and the surrounding area.

In the western Tokyo city of Fussa, the owner of El's Bar said her popular business is suffering along with scores of others on Bar Row, a 10-minute walk from the main gate at Yokota Air Base.

"We are open for food right now, so we can survive," Grace City said.

Outside Yokosuka Naval Base, about 40 miles south of central Tokyo, bar and club owners tell a similar story. The installation has been on the strictest lockdown since March 27 when it

reported at least three cases of coronavirus.

"We still get a few Japanese locals and some of their foreign friends come in," said Mary Jane, the owner of Venus Resto Bar near Yokosuka, "but with the Americans restricted to base, business is noticeably slower since there isn't much volume."

On Okinawa, Kanako Ibuki, the popular Pour House Bar and Grill in American Village, closed up shop March 29 due to the coronavirus.

"We knew what we had to do to protect our employees, our valuable military customers and their families and prevent spreading the disease," Ibuki told Stars and Stripes last week.

Nearly 95% of her customers are American military and the rest are usually their guests, Ibuki said.

At Iwakuni, Shinichiro Morihashi of Iwakuni Taxi said fares from the base are down by half these days.

Many of the drivers make round trips to the Shin Iwakuni train station and the bars and Naka Dori district about a mile from MCAS Iwakuni's main gate. But Marines and sailors at the



CHRISTIAN LOPEZ/Stars and Stripes

Venus Resto Bar near Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, sits empty March 30.

air station may not leave the base for anything other than essentials. Bars and nightclubs are off limits, and off-duty travel is also forbidden.

"We thought that we would be in a better situation compared to other businesses thanks to the base, but it's been very difficult," Morihashi said.

Some proprietors have plans to get through the pandemic.

In addition to The Pour House Bar and Grill, Ibuki owns Kukatsumi Okinawa Food Delivery, the only food-delivery service on Okinawa.

"It's not only our restaurant that is hurting, this is hurting all of our industry," she said. "I can help and support other restaura-

rants near bases to deliver their food to the service members to get by this hard time."

Keith Salyer, a Navy veteran, opened his own bar, DD-214, in Iwakuni on Jan. 27. He said March 24 he can rely on his late-night Japanese customers, who visit after the Americans' 1 a.m. curfew.

"Is it going to hurt? Yeah, it's going to hurt. I probably won't feel it until the end of next month," Salyer said. "Right now, my bills are paid, at least for [March]."

Stars and Stripes reporters Theron Godbold and Christian Lopez contributed to this report.  
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## Airman at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam tests positive

BY WYATT OLSON

Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — An airman at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam tested positive for coronavirus Thursday, and is the first active-duty airman stationed at the installation to do so, according to the Air Force.

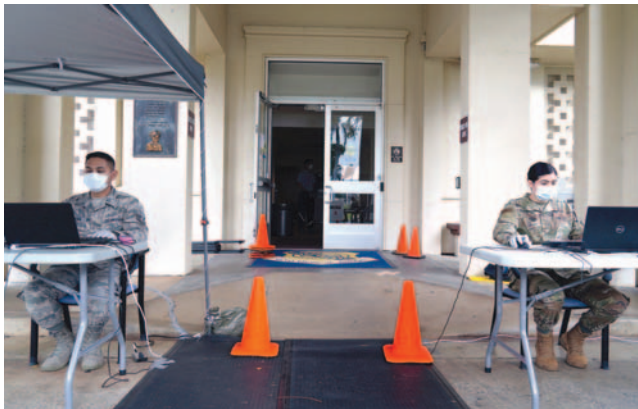
The airman, assigned to Pacific Air Force headquarters, did not have a history of recent travel, the service said in a statement Friday.

The service member, who is now in isolation in off-base housing, "had contact with personnel throughout the headquarters building," and base public health officials had begun contact tracing to notify anyone who might have encountered the airman, the statement said.

"The 15th Medical Group Public Health office is working with appropriate state and military health officials," Col. Halsey Burks, commander of the joint base's 15th Wing, said in the statement.

The Army announced March 21 that a 25th Infantry Division soldier stationed at Schofield Barracks had contracted the virus, making him the first U.S. service member to test positive in Hawaii.

As of Monday, Hawaii had 387



ERIN BAXTER/U.S. Air Force

A pair of pharmacy technicians with the 15th Wing practice social distancing as they check in pharmacy patients at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, on March 26.

cases of COVID-19.

Five people have died in the state.

"In coordination with the Joint Base, we continue to execute deliberate precautions to ensure we

mitigate COVID-19 transmission while preserving the force and mission capability," Burks said.

The public notice of the airman's positive status is a departure from the U.S. Defense Department's

order late last month that installations worldwide stop announcing new coronavirus cases among their personnel.

Friday's announcement of illness among Air Force personnel

at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, however, will apparently be the last.

"In the future and in order to protect operational security as we preserve the nation's combat readiness, the Air Force and the other military services will only provide total numbers of service members with COVID-19 at the service level," the statement said.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii said in an online posting last week that it would "strike a balance" between operational security and transparency by posting notices on Facebook when someone on the base tests positive.

"If known, we will share how the individual became infected," the posting said. Details such as employment and duty status, age or sex of the individual would not be released, nor would a running tally be published, it added. No Facebook notices had been issued as of Monday.

Oahu's three major installations — the Marine Corps Base, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and the Army's Schofield Barracks — are all at Health Protection Condition Charlie, which signals sustained community transmission of disease. The next and highest condition, Delta, designates "widespread" transmission.

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

A man wearing a face mask to protect against the spread of the coronavirus walks through an alley Tuesday in Seoul, South Korea.

## S. Korean city wants to help test civilian workers on bases

By KIM GAMEL  
and YOO KYONG CHANG  
Stars and Stripes

PYEONGTAEK, South Korea—The city near the main U.S. Army garrison in South Korea wants to conduct coronavirus tests on American civilians who work for the military after a recent spate of confirmed cases affiliated with U.S. Forces Korea, officials said Tuesday.

The U.S. military said that it is in talks with local officials but nothing has been decided and no details were released, including the extent of the request. Camp Humphreys is the largest overseas U.S. base with a population exceeding 37,000, including service members, dependents, contractors and other civilian employees.

Officials in Pyeongtaek, about 40 miles south of Seoul, have been alarmed by the rapid increase in the number of infections linked to Camp Humphreys and the nearby Osan Air Base after several American contractors and other civilians tested positive for the virus.

USFK has imposed partial lockdowns on the two installations and restricted most nonessential on-base movement. Camp Humphreys also acknowledged Tuesday that a plan is in the works to limit the number of days personnel who live off-post can shop at the commissary, in line with a similar decision at Osan Air Base.

Only two soldiers have been infected since USFK confirmed its first case on Feb. 24, and the overall total of 20 is relatively low compared with the overall Pentagon tally of more than 1,500 U.S. service members.

The bump on Camp Humphreys comes as South Korea is cautiously optimistic that the crisis outside the gates is ebbing, however, as its daily count fell below 50 for the second day in a row Tuesday, compared with a peak of 909 on Feb. 29.

"We know there have been confirmed cases at Camp Humphreys, so we proposed that the two sides are going to need to share information on the issue

## USFK reports 20th case

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — Another person working at Osan Air Base tested positive for the coronavirus Monday, raising the total number of cases affiliated with U.S. Forces Korea to 20.

USFK announced the results in a tweet, saying that "contact tracing and thorough cleaning are occurring now." It didn't immediately provide more details.

It was the third confirmed case since Friday on the air base, which is near Camp

Humphreys, the main Army garrison south of Seoul.

The U.S. military has sharply restricted access to bases and ordered most people on Humphreys and Osan to stay home as much as possible as it tries to prevent the further spread of the virus.

Only two soldiers have tested positive in South Korea. The others were military dependents, contractors and South Korean employees.

—Kim Gamel

in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19," a health official in Pyeongtaek told Stars and Stripes.

"We suggested that it would be good for the two sides to sign a memorandum of understanding."

The city also wants to test American civilian employees working at Camp Humphreys for the coronavirus, he said, since the military is focused on testing troops.

"But it is not yet written in stone," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the negotiations. "The base is currently reviewing both proposals."

Michael Tremblay, the Camp Humphreys garrison commander, confirmed that negotiations on the request were underway, but suggested that the testing likely wouldn't involve the entire population but rather "at-risk" segments.

"There has been an ask from the mayor and the mayor's office about testing," he said Tuesday during a community update via Facebook live. "Certainly that's in a negotiation of how and why and what they're looking for."

"The guidance I've received is that we are going to do it kind of the way the government of Korea does it," he said. "They don't test whole cities, so they're not going to test our whole population." USFK, which commands some

28,500 service members as a bulwark against North Korea, had to rely on the South Koreans for tests when the coronavirus began to spread on the divided peninsula after first appearing in China in late December.

The military has since built its own testing laboratory at the Brian D. Allgood Army Community hospital on Camp Humphreys with the capacity to conduct 80 to 100 tests per day, but those have been largely reserved for service members and dependents.

USFK also confirmed Monday that it has outsourced samples from American troops stationed off the peninsula to South Korea labs.

"While we have the capability to test 80-100 tests daily, we want to ensure we maintain flexibility and not test to our maximum capacity in a given day," USFK spokesman Col. Lee Peters said in an earlier email. "Therefore, we will outsource off-open requests as needed to ensure we maintain the ability to test USFK and USFK-affiliated persons as needed."

The command is confirming individual coronavirus cases as they are confirmed, but has declined to provide aggregate numbers of people tested or quarantined due to recent Pentagon guidance.

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## Lawmakers prod DOD for help on military moves

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — More than 30 lawmakers have requested that Defense Secretary Mark Esper provide more direction and support to help service members and military families financially impacted by the Pentagon's 60-day stop movement orders.

"While the stop movement order was noble and necessary, this unprecedented action left thousands of military families in extreme financial distress," the letter states.

Two stop movement orders were issued in March by Esper in response to the spreading coronavirus outbreak and barred all travel, including military moves and redeployments. The travel restrictions have impacted thousands of service members and their families around the world, according to the letter. In one example of the order's large impact, the military, U.S. Forces Korea estimated that it would affect almost 8,000 service members and their families moving to or leaving South Korea.

The letter was sent Thursday by 35 House lawmakers — six Republicans and 29 Democrats — requesting that Esper issue guidance to the service branches and installation commanders for them to "use the greatest possible breadth of relief options" for service members and families, and to include coordinating with local governments and nonprofits.

The letter stated that since the 60-day travel restriction was implemented, several lawmakers have heard from families who are paying rent on a home at their next duty station while stuck living in a house from which they intend to move. Spouses have left jobs due to anticipated moves, and families who have already shipped their household goods must pay to replace some of their necessities during the travel restriction.

Jonathan Hoffman, the chief spokesman for the Pentagon, said in a statement Monday that the Defense Department "understands that [the coronavirus] has impacted many throughout DOD and we are working to help our men and women in uniform weather this crisis. We will use all means available to assist service members who were impacted by

[the virus]."

The military's main moving season starts in the spring and ends in the fall. About 400,000 service members, Defense Department civilian workers and their families are moved each year, with 40% of moves happening between May 15 and Aug. 31, according to the Pentagon.

The travel restriction, while necessary for the health and safety of service members and families, has caused these unintended consequences, said Rep. Debra Haaland, D-N.M., who led the effort behind the bipartisan letter. Haaland, who is the daughter of a Vietnam veteran, said that she understands the needs the struggles other military families face, such as frequent moves.

Barriers cited in the letter are the low monetary caps for programs meant to help families during their moves, and capacity at local installations and family readiness centers to be able to process claims.

"This unparalleled order issued to save lives has led to an unparalleled need for assistance, critically straining the staff and resources available and inevitably resulting in long delays before relief reaches military families," the letter states.

The lawmakers want any cap on funds meant to help families to be removed during the pandemic, Haaland said. She said the purpose of the letter was to help lawmakers' concerns with military leadership and to urge them to do something.

The letter asked Esper to "exercise every measure within your authority to provide the [military] services with the guidance and resources needed to ensure care and support to every military member and family" affected by the order.

"They need to move — put out some uniform guidance so that people know what they should do," Haaland said. "There needs to be more coordination among the military and we need to expedite programs, more coordination with all of the military bases, I should say. And then we should expedite programs that already exist, remove barriers that help families so that they can make it month to month until we can see clear of this pandemic."

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**‘They need to move — put out some uniform guidance so that people know what they should do.’**

Rep. Debra Haaland  
D-N.M.



## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## USNS Comfort now taking virus patients

By ROSE L. THAYER  
Stars and Stripes

With a confirmed case of coronavirus already among the crew members of the USNS Comfort, the hospital ship docked in New York City will begin formally accepting patients with the respiratory illness, U.S. Northern Command announced Tuesday.

The Comfort's transition to coronavirus care is to help relieve mounting pressure on the city's hospital system, according to a news release from NORTHCOM, which is taking the lead on the Defense Department's coronavirus operations in the United States.

"Effective immediately, USNS

Comfort will accept trauma, emergency and urgent care patients without regard to their coronavirus status," NORTHCOM said.

The crew member who tested positive for the virus Monday is isolated from patients and other crew members, said Cmdr. Ashley Hockycko, spokeswoman for the U.S. 2nd Fleet.

"There is no impact to Comfort's mission, and this will not affect the ability for Comfort to receive patients," she said in a statement. "The ship is following protocols and taking every precaution to ensure the health and safety of all crewmembers and patients on board."

However, the ship will have to reduce its 1,000-patient capacity by half to accommodate highly contagious coronavirus cases, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Tuesday during a news conference.

"It's still a tremendous benefit," Cuomo said.

The governor said he called President Donald Trump on Monday to ask the Comfort treat coronavirus patients because there aren't many nonvirus patients. He said stay-at-home orders have reduced traffic accidents and crime.

While the number of hospitalizations has begun to plateau in the state, New York saw 731 peo-

ple die from the virus Monday — the highest of any other day, Cuomo said. In total, the state has more than 130,600 positive cases of the coronavirus, the highest in the nation.

Across the United States, positive cases were approaching 370,000 on Tuesday, according to the Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center.

Prior to Tuesday, the Comfort had received more than 41 patients, including several who later tested positive for the coronavirus, Air Force Brig. Gen. Paul Friedrichs, the Pentagon's Joint Staff surgeon, said Monday during a news conference. Of those patients, 16 were in intensive

care.

"Our commitment has been, if a patient comes to us, we would take care of them," he said.

By Tuesday morning, the number of patients aboard the Comfort rose to more than 50, Hockycko said.

Because the ship is geared toward trauma and emergency care, coronavirus patients who are stable are transferred to the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in Manhattan. That facility has been transformed into a 2,500-bed hospital with more than 1,000 military medical personnel managing care.

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## Army relents, halts sending its recruits to basic training

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Army on Monday stopped sending recruits to initial entrance training amid the coronavirus pandemic that has restricted movement for troops worldwide and placed millions of Americans under stay-at-home orders, service officials announced.

The halt will last at least two weeks as the service looks to implement measures meant to guarantee it can safely move recruits from their hometowns to training bases without a risk of spreading the virus, said Army Gen. Paul Funk, the chief of Training and Doctrine Command. Funk said the pause, which does not affect recruits already in training, would be reevaluated in two weeks and could be extended.

"During the pause our commanders will ensure we have the right, most current procedure and capabilities in place to screen and test our recruits," Funk told reporters during a telephonic news briefing. "We hold the safety of our force and our communities in the highest regard."

Funk said Monday that the decision to pause sending recruits to the Army's four basic training locations is not the result of a coronavirus outbreak on any of those installations: Fort Benning in Georgia, Fort Jackson in South Carolina, Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri and Fort Sill in Oklahoma.

Instead, Funk said service officials determined they could afford to pause temporarily because April and May — the weeks just ahead of typical high school and college graduation dates — are traditionally the slowest months for sending recruits to initial training. For example, he said,

only 219 recruits were scheduled to ship to basic training programs between Monday and the end of April.

"It really just happened that this is the slowest time for shipping [recruits] in the Army, and this is the right time to do it," Funk said.

Nonetheless, as recently as Friday, Army officials were adamant they were not planning to pause sending troops to basic training. In a Facebook post, Training and Doctrine Command wrote that shipping recruits was "mission essential" to ensure the Army could retain its combat readiness as it faced the virus. The Army reported Monday that at least 334 soldiers had been sickened by the coronavirus.

The general on Monday declined to provide the number of recruits among those positive virus tests, citing Pentagon policy not to release detailed information about such cases among its service members. But he said within the 54,000 recruits and soldiers now in some phase of Army training — such as basic enlisted training and initial officer training — advanced job- and skill-based training programs — 102 individuals had been diagnosed with the coronavirus, including 12 who have since recovered.

The Army's first coronavirus case among its recruits was announced March 23 when a recent arrival at Fort Jackson tested positive. That recruit was already in isolation when he was diagnosed after his answers to screening questions indicated he could have been exposed before arriving at training.

The Army's decision follows temporary halts issued by the other services. The Air Force halted sending recruits to basic military training for one week to



THOMAS BYRD/U.S. Army

A drill sergeant from 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment at Fort Jackson, S.C., takes the temperature of a soldier before boarding the bus to Fort Lee, Va. The Army on Monday stopped sending recruits to initial entrance training at Fort Jackson and three other bases due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

clean facilities after at least four recruits contracted the virus.

The Navy temporarily halted shipping recruits last week as well. And the Marine Corps has indefinitely stopped sending recruits to its boot camp at Parris Island in South Carolina, amid an outbreak there that has sickened dozens. Marine recruits are still being sent to the service's San Diego Recruit Depot for training.

When the Army resumes sending recruits to basic training, they will face a restricted program, Funk said.

New recruits will spend their first two weeks largely in classroom-style training and conducting some physical training while practicing social-distancing measures. After the first two weeks — during which the recruits will be isolated with their classmates and cadre to ensure anyone carrying the virus cannot spread it outside that group — they will

spend eight weeks training to become soldiers, Funk said.

The Army will continue sending basic training graduates to advanced training programs in which soldiers learn the skills required for their jobs. Soldiers who graduate that training will then be sent on to their first assignments, the general said.

The service is taking measures to keep soldiers moving between training bases or to their home station from contacting the general public, using chartered buses or aircraft to keep them isolated together in a "protective bubble."

Those efforts have been largely successful so far, Funk said. The temporary pause will allow the service to perfect the process, he added.

Recruits who were scheduled to ship to basic training could be eligible to begin receiving payment as though they were already

on active duty, depending on their personal hardship situation. The Army approved a new program to pay up to 4,000 recruits who face unusual hardships because of the pandemic. Funk said such circumstances could include recruits who might have let their lease expire because they expected to be entering the Army or recently left their civilian jobs.

Other recruits could receive extra bonuses between \$2,000 and \$6,000 later, if they are unable to ship to basic when they expected.

Recruits should stay in touch with their recruiters for the latest information about when they will be sent to basic training through the pandemic, the general said.

"We're going to take care of them," Funk said. "It's the right thing to do."

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# NYC virus deaths exceed city's toll for 9/11 attacks

BY MARINA VILLENEUVE  
AND LORI HINNANT  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York City's death toll from the coronavirus officially eclipsed the number of those killed at the World Trade Center on 9/11, health officials said Tuesday. In Britain, Prime Minister Boris Johnson was in intensive care with the virus.

At least 3,202 people have died in New York from COVID-19, according to the count released by the city. The deadliest terror attack on U.S. soil killed 2,753 people in the city and 2,977 overall, when hijacked planes slammed into the twin towers, the Pentagon and a Pennsylvania field on Sept. 11, 2001.

New York state recorded 731 new coronavirus deaths Tuesday, its biggest one-day jump yet, for a statewide toll of nearly 5,500, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said.

But in an encouraging sign, he reported that the average number of people newly hospitalized each day is dropping, as is the number of those receiving breathing tubes, indicating that measures taken to make people keep their distance from each other are succeeding.

And alarming as the one-day increase in deaths might sound, the governor said that's a "lagging indicator," reflecting people who had been hospitalized before this week. Over the past several days, in fact, the number of deaths appeared to be leveling off.

"You see that plateauing — that's because of what we are doing. If we don't do what we are doing, that is a much different curve," he said. "So social distancing is working."

Across the U.S., the death toll reached about 11,000, with around 370,000 confirmed infections.

In London, the 55-year-old

Johnson, the world's first head of government known to have fallen ill with the virus, was in stable condition and conscious at a hospital, where he was receiving oxygen but was not on a ventilator, said his spokesman James Slack. Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab was designated to run the country in the meantime.

"We're desperately hoping that Boris can make the speediest possible recovery," said Cabinet minister Michael Gove, who is among scores of British officials in self-isolation.

Japan's prime minister made the emergency declaration after a spike in infections in Tokyo, but it was a stay-at-home request — not an order — and violators will not be penalized. Despite having relatively few infections and deaths, Japan has a worrying target for a virus that has been killing the elderly at much higher rates than other age groups.

In some European hot spots, as in New York, authorities were hoping that the outbreak was turning a corner, based on slowdowns in new deaths and hospitalizations.

In Spain, one of the hardest-hit countries, new deaths Tuesday rose to 743 and infections climbed by 5,400 after five days of declines, but the increases were believed to reflect a weekend backlog. Authorities said slowing the contagion will be a long process and were confident in the downward trend.

Italy's commissioner for fighting the COVID-19 virus appealed to Italians ahead of Easter weekend not to lower their guard and to abide by a lockdown now in its fifth week.

Citing data that shows that pressure on Italian intensive care wards is easing, Domenico Arcuri said that "the cruel reality is stronger than algorithms."

"Don't ever forget even for an



MATT DUNHAM/AP

A close-up view of a coronavirus mural of lovers embracing while wearing face masks by Unity Artist is displayed in east London, Tuesday.

## By the numbers

# 3.2K 2.7K 731

There have been 3,202 deaths in New York City from COVID-19, according to the latest count.

The 9/11 attack on the twin towers killed 2,753 people in New York City and 2,977 overall.

Number of reported deaths on Tuesday in New York City from the virus, the biggest one-day jump to date.

SOURCE: Associated Press

instant that this invisible, strong and unknown virus has taken 16,523 lives through yesterday," Arucuri said, reciting the figure repeatedly. "I beg you, in the next hours and days, do not cancel this number from your memory."

New coronavirus cases were also slowing in France and Portugal. To keep up social distancing, Paris banned daytime jogging just as warm spring weather settled in.

U.S. Surgeon General Jerome

Adams said that if Americans continue to practice social distancing for the rest of April, "we will be able to get back to some sense of normalcy."

"I want the American people to know there is a light at the end of this tunnel, and we feel confident that if we keep doing the right thing for the rest of this month, that we can start to slowly reopen in some places," he said on ABC's "Good Morning America."

One lockdown exception in the

U.S. was Wisconsin, which asked hundreds of thousands of voters to ignore a stay-at-home order to participate in its presidential primary Tuesday.

The lines were particularly long in Milwaukee, the state's largest city and a Democratic stronghold.

The U.S. government's top infectious-disease expert, Dr. Anthony Fauci, was cautiously optimistic, saying that in New York, "what we have been doing has been working."

Stocks climbed in early trading on Wall Street on Tuesday as markets around the world piled on even more big gains following their huge rally a day earlier. The S&P 500 index rose 3% in the first few minutes of trading and added on to Monday's 7% surge.

China, the first country to go into lockdown and among the strictest, reported no new deaths over the past 24 hours for the first time since it began publishing statistics on the virus that emerged in December in the city of Wuhan. Many experts, however, have been skeptical of China's virus figures. The final travel restrictions in Wuhan are being lifted Wednesday.

# Doctors wary of drug Trump touts to combat virus

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump and his administration are promoting an anti-malaria drug not officially approved for fighting the coronavirus, even though scientists say more testing is needed before it's proven safe and effective against COVID-19.

Trump trade adviser Peter Navarro championed hydroxychloroquine in television interviews Monday, a day after the president publicly put his faith in the medication to lessen the toll of the coronavirus pandemic.

"What do I know, I'm not a doctor,"

Trump said Sunday. "But I have common sense." In promoting the drug's possibilities, the president has often stated, "What have you got to lose?"

Trump held out promise for the drug as he grasps for ways to sound hopeful in the face of a mounting death toll and with the worst weeks yet to come for the U.S. The virus has killed more than 10,000 in the U.S., and measures meant to contain its spread have taken a painful economic toll and all but frozen life in large swaths of the country.

But medical officials warn that it's dangerous to be hawking unproven remedies, and even Trump's own experts have cau-

tioned against it.

The American Medical Association's president, Dr. Patricia Harris, said she personally would not prescribe the drug for a coronavirus patient, saying the risks of severe side effects were "great and too significant to downplay" without large studies showing the drug is safe and effective for such use.

Harris pointed to the drug's high risk of causing heart rhythm problems.

"People have their health to lose," she said. "Your heart could stop."

Hydroxychloroquine is officially approved for treating malaria, rheumatoid arthritis and lupus, not COVID-19. Small,

preliminary studies have suggested it might help prevent the new coronavirus from entering cells and possibly help patients clear the virus sooner. But those have shown mixed results.

Doctors are already prescribing the malaria drug to patients with COVID-19, a practice known as off-label prescribing. Research studies are now beginning to test if the drugs truly help COVID-19 patients, and the Food and Drug Administration has allowed the medication into the national stockpile as an option for doctors to consider for patients who cannot get into one of the studies.

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Congress, White House think big on aid bill

By LISA MASCARO  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congressional leaders are jolting ahead with another coronavirus rescue package as President Donald Trump indicated that Americans will need more aid during the stark pandemic and economic shutdown.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said another \$1 trillion is needed, beyond the just-passed \$2.2 trillion effort. She wants another round of direct payments to Americans and more money for companies to keep making payroll. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said in recent days that health care should top the list, signaling his intent to get to work on a new bill.

"We're going to take good care of our people," Trump said Monday at his daily White House briefing. "It was not their fault."

It's a rare sign of emerging consensus as Washington responds to the public health emergency and severe economic fallout that is ransacking communities nationwide, a crisis on par with a war effort or the Great Depression.

The contours of the package are still being debated and any votes in Congress remain a logistical conundrum. The House and Senate adjourned for most of the month, as part of strict stay-at-home orders from public health officials to prevent the spread of the highly contagious virus.

On an afternoon conference call with House Democrats, Pelosi told lawmakers at least another \$1 trillion would be needed, according to a person unauthorized to discuss the call and granted anonymity. The California Democrat has vowed to put the next



ALEX BRANDON/AP

**President Donald Trump speaks about efforts to combat the coronavirus pandemic at the White House on Monday. "We're going to take good care of our people," Trump said. "It was not their fault."**

package together in time for a House vote this month.

Former Federal Reserve chief Janet Yellen joined the private call and warned Democrats the economic fallout will depend on the public health response to the pandemic, the person said. As businesses shutter to stop the virus' spread, it has hurled the U.S. economy toward a recession.

Yellen said it was impossible to know how deep and long the recession would be, and added that it would depend on the health response.

The former Fed chairwoman also told them the nation's unem-

ployment rate is now at least 13% and this week's jobs report will show higher numbers than last week's. Yellen said she expects a 30% contraction of GDP this year, but has seen models as high as 50%, according to a Democratic aide unauthorized to discuss the call and granted anonymity.

The earlier relief package, approved in late March, included one-time \$1,200 direct payments to Americans, along with forgivable small-business loans for companies to keep making payroll. It also included a boost of unemployment pay, money for hospitals and a \$500 billion

fund for bigger corporations and industries.

Pelosi told Democrats said the \$1,200 direct payments to Americans and the paycheck protection program for small businesses are not enough and more needs to be done, the person said.

She also said there needs to be more aid through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as food stamps.

Trump has favored direct checks to Americans, and gave a nod to another round in the next package.

"It is absolutely under serious consideration," he said.

The shifts from the political leaders are stark amid what officials warn could be one of the toughest weeks for the country, as the number of confirmed cases and deaths climbs.

McConnell told The Associated Press on Friday that there would be another package and health care must be at the "top of the list."

McConnell, R-Ky., said Congress should focus on correcting any shortcomings in the earlier \$2.2 trillion aid bill and rely on health care experts for solutions to "wipe out" the virus.

Pelosi last week also backed off her more sweeping proposals for an infrastructure package to put people back to work, focusing on the more immediate health care and economic needs.

As governors plead for federal intervention to provide hard-hit hospitals in New York and elsewhere with vital medical ventilators, equipment and supplies, Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer called for a better-coordinated effort to care for the many sick people. Schumer told reporters on a conference call Monday that he's urging the White House to appoint a single, well-qualified "czar" to handle both the production and distribution of medical supplies and equipment to fight the pandemic.

Schumer, D-N.Y., said he spoke to both Vice President Mike Pence and new White House chief of staff Mark Meadows and suggested three potential candidates for the job: two former vice chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, retired Air Force Gen. Paul Selva and retired Adm. James A. Winnefield, and retired Vice Adm. Mark Harmitchek, former director of the Defense Logistics Agency.

## Trump, Biden spoke by phone about pandemic particulars

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said he had a "really wonderful, warm conversation" with Joe Biden on Monday about the coronavirus outbreak.

"He gave me his point of view, and I fully understood that, and we just had a very friendly conversation," Trump said at his daily press briefing.

The president said he and Biden agreed not to share the details of their conversation, but confirmed an earlier statement from the Biden campaign that the Democrat offered "suggestions" on how to address the pandemic. Biden had previously said he'd like to share with Trump some lessons he learned from dealing with similar crises during the Obama administration.

But Trump added: "It doesn't mean that I agree with those suggestions."

**"[Biden] expressed his appreciation for the spirit of the American people in meeting the challenges facing the nation."**

**Kate Bedingfield**  
Joe Biden's deputy campaign manager

Kate Bedingfield, Biden's deputy campaign manager, said in a statement that the two had a "good call" where Biden gave Trump some advice and "expressed his appreciation for the spirit of the American people in meeting the challenges facing the nation."

The conversation was the culmination of a daylong effort by aides to get the two on the phone, after White House adviser Kellyanne Conway called on the former vice president to "offer some support" to Trump. Biden, the prospective Democratic presidential

nominee, has in recent weeks released a series of proposals for responding to the pandemic and has criticized the Trump administration for acting too slowly to halt the virus' spread.

Biden said last week that he would "love" to speak to Trump and wanted to share with him his experiences.

"We've been through this in a slightly different way in the past, and I hope they can learn some lessons from what we did right and maybe what we did wrong," Biden said.

## US government not ready to provide paid sick leave in new law

By ERIC YODER  
The Washington Post

The federal government is not yet ready to make available to its employees new paid sick leave related to the pandemic that took effect, on paper at least, last week.

A law enacted in mid-March, expanded the Family and Medical Leave Act by creating new sick leave entitlements, one of which applies to all federal employees, according to the Labor Department. But while the law specifies that the leave was to be available starting April 1, it is not yet in place for federal employees.

In an email, Office of Personnel Management communications director Anthony Marucci said the law requires that the emergency sick leave be paid at a rate which "our payroll systems are not set up to do. Agencies and

payroll providers need time to make system adjustments and set up procedures."

If an employee is subject to a quarantine order, has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine or is experiencing symptoms and is seeking a medical diagnosis, the law provides paid leave of up to 80 hours (or a two-week equivalent for a part-time employee). That leave is paid at the employee's regular pay rate or the federal minimum wage, up to \$511 daily and \$5,110 total.

The law also authorizes up to \$200 daily and \$2,000 total for federal employees to care for someone under quarantine, to care for a child whose school or day care is closed due to virus-related reasons, or who is experiencing symptoms "substantially similar" to those of COVID-19.



## VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

# Governor believes California cases to peak in mid-May

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Gavin Newsom is sticking with a mid-May projection for when the COVID-19 outbreak will reach its peak in California, continuing efforts to stockpile hospital beds and protective gear for health care workers even as a new analysis suggests that the virus' spread could be slowing sooner.

While confirmed cases and deaths continue rising in California, the rate of hospitalizations and intensive care placements — a key indicator of resources the state needs — have been increasing more slowly. Both rose less than 5% over the weekend. It was enough that Newsom felt comfortable loaning 500 ventilators to other states.

Newsom on Monday gave his update on the virus efforts in Sacramento as workers prepared 400 hospital beds. It's part of a plan to add an extra 66,000 hospital beds and 10,000 ventilators.

A new analysis from the University of Washington, which state officials are using to inform their work, projects that California will see an earlier and lower peak for deaths and needed hospital resources. The statistical model that is updated daily for all 50 states was developed to help hospitals and health systems prepare for the surge and is a tool for many government officials.

## Colorado

DENVER — Colorado Gov. Jared Polis on Monday extended his statewide stay-at-home order until April 26 to help curb the spread of the coronavirus.

In a speech that was televised statewide, Polis said that the spread of the disease had slowed, but he called on residents to continue to keep social distance and to wear protective face masks when they run essential errands during his order.

"If there's any way to safely end it sooner, I will," he said. "And likewise, if Coloradans aren't staying at home, and the numbers of dead and dying continue to pile up, it could go longer."

Polis said that at the beginning of the crisis, the number of cases in Colorado was doubling every one-and-a-half days, but is now doubling every six or seven days.

## Michigan

LANSING — Michigan lawmakers plan to meet Tuesday to consider extending a statewide emergency declaration during the coronavirus pandemic, but are divided over the safety and necessity of convening.

Republicans who control the Legislature said that they must

act now because Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's emergency declaration expires Tuesday. But Democrats said it does not lapse because she issued a declaration last week that also includes a new disaster declaration, meaning legislators do not have to vote until April 29.

Republicans plan to extend the emergency by 23 days, through April 30. Whitmer said that it should be extended by 70 days, until mid-June.

The Legislature is implementing screening and distancing procedures to limit lawmakers from potential exposure on Tuesday. Two legislators have tested positive for COVID-19, while a third has died of the suspected virus.

## Mississippi

JACKSON — Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves said Monday that hospitals in the state have about 3,000 beds, and projections show that almost 400 more beds will be needed when the state reaches its peak of the coronavirus outbreak in the next few weeks.

He said that officials are working on a system to send the sickest patients to larger, better equipped hospitals. He said that smaller, rural hospitals could care for patients who have either not yet reached the most severe part of the illness or are past the most severe part and are recovering.

Reeves also said that a military base in south Mississippi, Camp Shelby, has 200 beds that can be used for less severe patients, and officials are close to finding a site in north Mississippi that could also be set up with a 200-bed capacity.

"There will be more Mississippians who die from this virus," Reeves said Monday. "It is serious, it is contagious and it can be fatal."

## New Mexico

ALBUQUERQUE — While federal environmental regulators have waived enforcement on a range of legally mandated public health and environmental protections, New Mexico is marching ahead.

Food inspections are ongoing, as is the tracking of methane emissions and other critical work related to drinking water protections and worker safety as the number of new coronavirus cases in the state increased Monday by several dozen.

New Mexico has nearly 690 cases and the death toll remains at 12. The new cases come a day after President Donald Trump signed off on a federal disaster declaration for New Mexico, freeing up funding to supplement



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

A woman wearing a mask exits a Costco store with her purchases Monday in Lenexa, Kan.

state, tribal and local recovery efforts.

The declaration allows the state to start asking for federal dollars up front — up to 50% — for approved projects to help with the response efforts.

"The important thing is that New Mexico now has an approved major disaster declaration and our requests will be prioritized at a higher level," said spokeswoman Jodi McGinnis-Porter.

## Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Legislature on Monday granted sweeping new powers to the governor to respond to the coronavirus pandemic.

The House and Senate met in special session and approved the resolution under the never-before-used Catastrophic Health Emergency Act, which gives Gov. Kevin Stitt the authority to temporarily suspend laws and regulations that interfere with the state's ability to respond to the pandemic.

It also gives the governor the authority to redirect state employees and other resources, including up to \$50 million state funds, from one agency to another, among other things. The powers also authorize the state's public health authority, in this case the State Department of Health, to take control of any human remains.

Those entering the Capitol on Monday had their temperature checked, and most House and Senate members wore masks and gloves as they filed onto the floor in groups of 10 or less to cast their votes. Some members in the House also voted by proxy, a move authorized under new rules approved last month.

## Washington

OLYMPIA — Schools in Washington state will remain physically closed for the remainder of the school year while more than 1.2 million public and private K-12 students continue distance learning at least until mid-June due to the coronavirus outbreak, officials said Monday.

Schools have been shut statewide since March 17 and were initially scheduled to reopen April 27. That was extended until June 19 — when the spring term ends — and schools were encouraged to continue distance learning.

The order also asks schools to start planning for a potential expansion of the closures into the summer and fall, though Gov. Jay Inslee said that officials would explore whether it was possible to bring students back for graduation later in the year.

Schools Superintendent Chris Reykdal said that the decision was tough, but the risks of returning students to school too soon were high due to the pandemic.

"A rush back to school puts significant risk in learning continuity that, at this time, would not be better than the model we are developing and advancing at a distance," he said. "We do not want that curve to suddenly spike up because we acted too quickly to come back."

## Kansas

KANSAS CITY — Kansas City Public Schools has suspended its free meal distribution program for students after a food service worker helping with the effort tested positive for COVID-19, district officials said.

The district announced the suspension Monday, the Kansas City

Star reported. Officials gave no timeline for when the program might resume, but suggested that families go to the Harvesters Community Food Network website to locate food pantries and mobile distribution sites.

"This was not an easy decision," district spokesman Ray Weikal said. "We understand that many of our families depend on school meals to help meet the nutritional needs of their children."

It was the second case of the coronavirus among the district's food service workers. Weeks ago, a worker who was out of town at the time tested positive.

## Nebraska

LINCOLN — Two remote Nebraska counties have reported their first cases of the coronavirus, state health officials reported.

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services said in a news release Monday night that Cheyenne County in the Nebraska Panhandle reported a woman in her 20s testing positive for COVID-19. The woman had been in close contact with another infected person, local officials said.

And on the opposite side of the state, in northeastern Nebraska's Stanton County, a man in his 60s with no underlying health conditions has tested positive for the virus. Officials said that his case originates from "community spread," meaning health officials can't trace the source of the infection.

Both counties are rural and sparsely populated, with about 10,000 people calling Cheyenne County home and little more than 6,000 people in Stanton County.

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Videoconferencing calls become hackers new target

BY REGINA GARCIA CANO  
AND AARON MORRISON  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Ceri Weber had just begun to defend her dissertation when the chaos began: Echoes and voices interrupted her. Someone parroted her words. Then Britney Spears music came on, and someone told Weber to shut up. Someone threatened to rape her.

Hackers had targeted the meeting on the videoconferencing platform Zoom while Weber was completing the final step of her doctoral degree at Duke University. The harassment lasted 10 minutes — the result of an increasingly common form of cyber attack known as “Zoom

bombing.” As tens of millions of people turn to videoconferencing to stay connected during the coronavirus pandemic, many have reported uninvited guests who make threats, interject racist, anti-gay or anti-Semitic messages, or show pornographic images. The attacks have drawn the attention of the FBI and other law enforcement agencies.

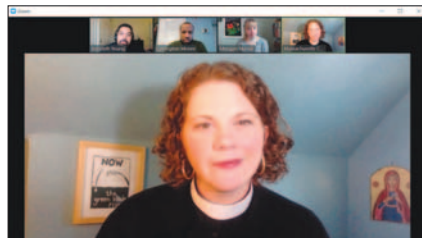
A Massachusetts high school reported that someone interrupted a virtual class on Zoom, yelled profanity and revealed the teacher’s home address. Another school in that state reported a person who accessed a meeting and showed swastika tattoos, according to the FBI.

The agency’s field office in

Boston recommended that users of videoteleconference platforms prioritize their security by ensuring that hosts have sole control over screen-sharing features and meeting invitations.

In New York, Attorney General Letitia James sent a letter to Zoom with questions about how users’ privacy and security are being protected. In a separate letter, Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut sought information about how the company handles users’ personal data and guards against security threats and abuse.

In a statement issued last week, the company told The Associated Press it takes the security of meetings seriously and encourages users to report any incidents directly to Zoom. The company



THE REV. LAURA E. EVERETT/AP

**In a frame from a Zoom video, the Rev. Laura Everett delivers a sermon for Boston’s First Baptist Church on April 2 in Boston. As Everett delivered a previous sermon, a user entered the videoconferencing session and shouted homophobic and racist slurs.**

suggested that people hosting large, public meetings confirm that they are the only ones who can share their screen and use features like mute controls.

Zoom-bombing was always a threat given how the videoconferencing app was configured — geared more toward user-

friendliness than privacy, said Justin Brookman, director of privacy and technology policy at Consumer Reports.

When shelter-at-home mandates suddenly converted Zoom into a lifeline for tens of millions of families, it became a juicy target for mischief, he said.

## Death and illness rate among black residents alarms cities

BY KATHLEEN FOODY  
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago’s mayor pledged an aggressive public health campaign aimed at the city’s black and brown communities Monday amid alarm that an overwhelming number of African Americans were among the people to die of COVID-19 in early data.

Black residents accounted for 72% of deaths from COVID-19 complications in the city and 52% of positive tests for the coronavirus, despite making up only 30% of the city’s population, according to the city’s public health agency.

Public health experts in Chicago said the trend was unsurprising to anyone familiar



Lightfoot

Similar conditions mark other large cities with large black populations that are considered hot spots for the coronavirus, including New York, Detroit, Milwaukee and New Orleans. Figures released Mon-

day by Michigan’s Department of Health and Human Services showed African Americans, who make up 14% of the state population, make up about 33% of cases statewide and 41% of deaths.

Still, Mayor Lori Lightfoot said the disparities in Chicago “take your breath away” and required an immediate response from the city, community activists and healthcare providers.

A new team of city and community representatives will focus on contacting residents who are older than 50 and those considered vulnerable to the virus because of other health conditions to share information about prevention and resources for those who do become ill.

“We can’t simply stand by and let this

disease wreak havoc in our communities,” Lightfoot said. “Lives are truly at stake.”

The city’s public health commissioner also ordered all healthcare providers in the city to collect data on COVID-19 patients’ race and ethnicity, seeking to address existing gaps. The department’s leader, Dr. Allison Arwady, said one-quarter of testing results sent to her agency so far have not included that critical information.

A national civil rights group on Monday said that’s a problem across the country and demanded more transparency on race and ethnicity among the COVID-19 testing results, cases and patient outcomes reported by federal health authorities and state health agencies.

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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## NATION

# White supremacists from Russia will be hit by US sanctions

By MATTHEW LEE  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration on Monday designated a Russian white supremacist group a terrorist organization and hit its members with sanctions.

The move against the Russian Imperial Movement is the first time a white supremacist group has been named a "Specially Designated Global Terrorist" group and comes amid doubts the administration believes extremist organizations of that type merit such sanctions. It was not immediately clear what the practical impact will be as the group is relatively small and does not have major international reach.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and his counterterrorism coordinator, Nathan Sales, announced the step, which makes it illegal for Americans to engage in any transactions with the group and freezes any assets it may have in U.S. jurisdictions. The penalties can also include a travel ban.

In addition to the group, the administration placed individual sanctions on its leaders — Stanislav Anatolyevich Vorobyev, Denis Vallullovich Gariev and Nikolay Nikolayevich Trushchakov — by adding them to the list.

"These designations are unprecedented," Sales said. "This is the first time the United States has ever designated white supremacist terrorists, illustrating how seriously this administration takes the threat. We are taking actions no previous administration has taken to counter this threat."

The Russian Imperial Movement is alleged to provide paramilitary training to neo-Nazis and white supremacists in Russia and elsewhere from two camps it runs in St. Petersburg, according to U.S. officials. In 2016, it was alleged to have trained two Swedes who later carried out a series of terrorist attacks in the Swedish city of Gothenburg, including bombing a cafe and attempting

**'This is the first time the United States has ever designated white supremacist terrorists, illustrating how seriously this administration takes the threat.'**

Nathan Sales  
U.S. counterterrorism coordinator

to bomb a campsite housing refugees, they said.

There are dozens of entities on various U.S. terrorism blacklists, but most are Islamic extremist groups or separatist movements that have engaged in violence to achieve political ends. The al-Qaida network and Islamic State movement along with many affiliated organizations are perhaps the best known among them.

Trump and his administration have been criticized for not appearing to take the threat of white supremacism seriously, overseas or domestically. Trump came under fire for not responding more forcefully to violence provoked by some neo-Nazi groups in Charlottesville, Va., in August 2017 and has been called out for supporting European nationalist politicians.

Monday's designations will make it easier for national security prosecutors at the Justice Department to bring terrorism-related charges against anyone engaged in financial transactions to people affiliated with the Russian group.

Federal authorities have used the designation to bar entry to United States of members of named groups.

Associated Press writer Eric Tucker contributed to this report.



ROSELIO V. SOLIS/AP

Millsaps College president Robert W. Pearigen speaks about the history of some of the buildings at the small liberal arts college Friday in Jackson, Miss. With students online learning in face of the coronavirus, Pearigen and other small college leaders face an unusual set of financial and enrollment challenges because of the virus.

## Some colleges fight to survive due to virus-led financial hit

By COLLIN BINKLEY  
AND JEFF AMY  
Associated Press

Colleges across the nation are scrambling to close deep budget holes and some have been pushed to the brink of collapse after the coronavirus outbreak triggered financial losses that could total more than \$100 million at some institutions.

Scores of colleges say they're taking heavy hits as they refund money to students for housing, dining and parking after campuses closed last month. Many schools are losing millions more in ticket sales after athletic seasons were cut short, and some say huge shares of their reserves have been wiped out amid wild swings in the stock market.

Yet college leaders say that's only the start of their troubles: Even if campuses reopen this fall, many worry large numbers of students won't return. There's widespread fear that an economic downturn will leave many Amer-

icans unable to afford tuition, and universities are forecasting steep drop offs among international students who may think twice about studying abroad so soon after a pandemic.

"If you play out the scenarios that are out there, it really makes you nervous," said Mary Papazian, president of San Jose State University, which estimates it will lose \$16 million by the end of May. "We may be looking at cutting academic programs if it comes to it. We may be looking at laying off people. It's a dire situation if the worst comes to pass."

Dozens of colleges have instituted hiring freezes, and many are halting construction projects so they have enough money to pay employees. But university presidents say the savings will only stretch so far, and many are asking the federal government for a second stimulus package to avoid deeper cuts.

The \$2 trillion rescue bill signed by President Donald

Trump last month provides \$14 billion for higher education. The American Council on Education, an association of college presidents, had requested \$50 billion and called the package "woefully inadequate."

Even colleges with deep reserves are expecting a painful financial blow from the pandemic. Brown University was among the first to announce a hiring freeze, citing "dramatic reductions in revenue." Yale University followed on March 31, asking departments to update budgets in preparation of a "significant loss" in revenue.

The University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Wisconsin, Madison, each expect losses of about \$100 million, and that's assuming campuses reopen by this fall.

It leaves some colleges wondering if they can meet demand for financial aid, which is expected to surge as millions of Americans lose their jobs.

## Supreme Court rules for federal employee in age-bias case

By MARK SHERMAN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Well, OK, boomer. The Supreme Court made it easier Monday for federal employees 40 and older to sue for age discrimination.

The justices ruled 8-1 that federal workers have a lower hurdle to overcome than their counterparts in the private sector. The decision came in the case in which Chief Justice John Roberts, a 65-year-old boomer, invoked the "OK, boomer" meme during arguments in January for the first time in high-court records.

The court issued the opinion without taking the bench for the third straight week because of the coronavirus. Arguments scheduled for the spring have been postponed indefinitely.

An employee can win a lawsuit by showing that age discrimination was part of the process, even if the people who were selected were better qualified, the court held in an opinion by another boomer, 70-year-old Justice Samuel Alito. The ruling came in the case of a Veterans Affairs Department employee who was in her early 50s when she sued for age discrimination after being denied promotions and train-

ing opportunities.

The outcome stands in contrast to a 2009 decision in which the court said age has to be the key factor in a private sector employment decision. The language of the law's provisions covering private and federal employees is different.

Alito wrote that, "if Congress had wanted to impose the same standard on all employers, it could have easily done so."

But the opinion also made clear that an employee could not expect to win back pay or the promotion she sought if discrimination was not the key factor in the employment decision at issue. There could be

other options, including a court order forbidding the agency from using the same flawed process in the future, Alito wrote.

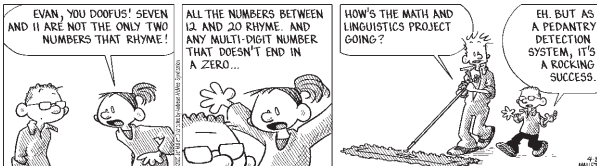
Justice Clarence Thomas, 71, also a member of the post-World War II baby boom generation, dissented.

Supreme Court justices sometimes will imagine themselves in situations like the ones that land people before the high court, but that can be hard to do when the subject is employment discrimination because the justices have lifetime tenure. The youngest justice, Neil Gorsuch, is 52. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 87, is the eldest.

The case is Babb v. Wilkie, 18-882.



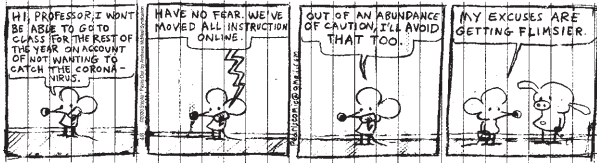
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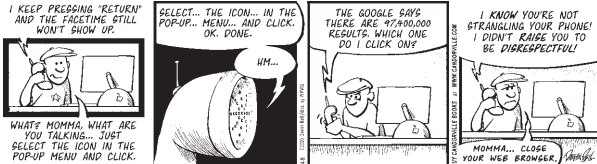
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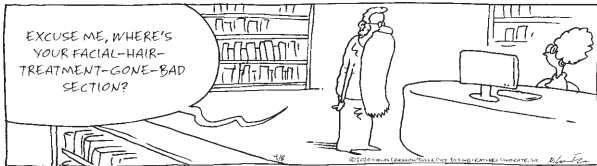
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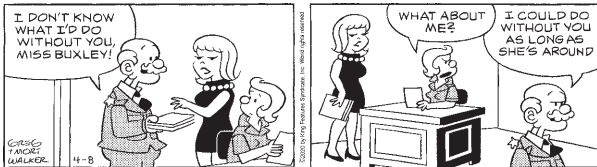
Candorville



Carpe Diem



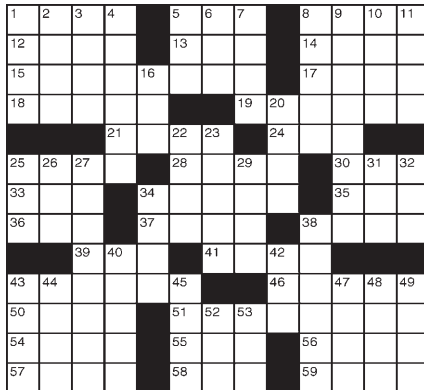
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



### ACROSS

- 1 Outlet letters
- 5 Pirate's chart
- 8 Muscat's land
- 12 Yuletide tune
- 13 Tramcar contents
- 14 Hay unit
- 15 "Prizzi's Honor" actress
- 17 Slightly open
- 18 Despot
- 19 Geisha's garment
- 21 Site of Apra Harbor
- 24 Bando of baseball
- 25 Jittery
- 28 Spring
- 30 WWW access enabler
- 33 "How dare —!"
- 34 Stuffy sort
- 35 Bill's partner
- 36 Montreal summer
- 37 Painter Magritte
- 38 Cab
- 39 Caviar
- 41 Facts and figures
- 43 Party snack
- 46 More skilled
- 50 "Step —!"
- 51 St. Peter's, for one
- 54 Formerly
- 55 Mode lead-in
- 56 Deserve
- 57 Mad king of theater

- 58 Shrilk bark
- 59 Overconfident

### DOWN

- 1 Body sci.
- 2 Swindles
- 3 "— Vu" (Warwick hit)
- 4 Group of priests
- 5 Miss Piggy's pronoun
- 6 Curved line
- 7 High point
- 8 44th president
- 9 Colorful tin-glazed pottery
- 10 Arkin of "Argo"
- 11 Sleuth Wolfe
- 16 Baton Rouge
- 20 Cruise stop
- 22 Ranch measure
- 23 Small hill
- 25 CBS logo
- 26 Speck
- 27 Famed Picasso painting
- 29 Concept
- 31 Boston team, for short
- 32 Luau bowlful
- 34 Get ready, briefly
- 38 Bistro furniture
- 40 Western flick
- 42 — chi
- 43 "Neato!"
- 44 Green
- 45 Online auction site
- 47 Actor Neeson
- 48 Beige
- 49 Pealed
- 52 Boxing legend
- 53 Enervate

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



4-8

### CRYPTOQUIP

TRKO KEMOCT SCO FCRIEMD S  
IED RCO BOFRTEH HNOL  
BETYRJOCOB. KSLIO HNOL'CO  
TOSCYNEMD EM JOEM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SNAKES WERE BOUND BY CONTRACT TO WORK FOR THEIR SUPERIORS, THEY'D BE INDENTURED SERPENTS.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals V

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Ax-wielding man arrested after standoff

**KS** ARKANSAS CITY — A man with a long-handled ax was taken into custody after a standoff at a police station in southern Kansas.

Arkansas City Police Chief Dan Ward said that Douglas Gleeves, 38, entered the lobby of the police department Sunday afternoon and hit the interior door of the department's secured area with the ax.

Officers blocked off part of the downtown while members of state and county law enforcement agencies tried to talk to him.

A little more than two hours after the confrontation began, Gleeves left the police station and was subdued with a Taser, KWCH reported. Nobody was hurt, Ward said.

## Skiers raise more than \$500K for nonprofit

**ME** WESTBROOK — Skiers and snowboarders in Maine raised more than \$500,000 for a nonprofit group that works to help children enjoy more winter activities.

Organizers said that the WinterKids Downhill 24 collected the most revenue in its history at \$562,000. The event took place in early March.

This year's event attracted 4,000 donors, 49 teams and 491 participants, organizers said. The event is the only annual event that brings night skiing to Sugarloaf Mountain, organizers said.

Organizers said that they'd give \$25,000 to Sugarloaf Ski Club's King's Kids Fund, which lets local children train in Sugarloaf's weekend ski and ride programs.

## Former church property sold to developer

**MA** NORTHAMPTON — A former church property in Northampton that has been vacant for 10 years has been sold to a developer who plans to build townhouses on the site, authorities said.

The St. John Cantius Church was sold for \$1.6 million to Holyoke-based O'Connell Hawley LLC. The seller was the Roman Catholic Bishop of Springfield, according to land records.

Paperwork filed with the city showed that the developer plans to build 23 units on the property. Each will be two-bedroom units and three stories high, according to a permit application submitted by the developers.

The former parish center, the former rectory and a garage will be demolished to make way for the new development. The church building will remain for now, officials said.

## Park's 150th birthday celebration goes online

**CA** SAN FRANCISCO — Golden Gate Park turns 150 years old Saturday, and the huge party to celebrate San Francisco's beloved treasure will, for the time being, take place online.



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

## Playing some quaran-tunes

As neighbor Carys Williams, 7, peeks out of her house, drummer Andrew Northcutt waits as singer Elena Lacayo works on technical issues for their band to livestream a porch concert Sunday in Washington. Elena and Los Fulanos is trying to make some income under coronavirus restrictions by livestreaming concerts and asking for contributions from their viewers. Due to internet issues, they had to move the concert into the living room and successfully livestreamed their music an hour later than scheduled.

Originally, city officials planned a yearlong celebration that included free museum admission, concerts and the participation of more than 150 cultural institutions and community groups. A giant Ferris wheel that lifts passengers 150 feet into the sky was brought in for the occasion. But the spread of the coronavirus forced them to delay the event.

Instead, they launched an online concert series featuring musical sets performed in the park over the years. They include an appearance by Boz Scaggs at the Hardy Strictly Bluegrass festival in 2016 and Metallica's headlining performance at the Outside Lands festival in 2017.

"Golden Gate Park has served as a place of inspiration, hope and refuge for San Franciscans for 150 years," Mayor London Breed said in a statement. "We hope these virtual experiences will bring some joy and entertainment during this challenging times."

## Strip clubs sue over raised danger age limit

**FL** JACKSONVILLE — Adult clubs in one Florida city are suing over a new law that raised the minimum age for strippers from 18 to 21.

The law in Jacksonville was enacted March 5 in a bid to reduce human trafficking. But lawyers for the clubs, including the lead plaintiff Wacko's, contend in a federal lawsuit that it violates the First Amendment by restrict-

## THE CENSUS

**4** The number of years that 6-year-old Carlos Rolon of Worcester, Mass., had been waiting for a new heart. He finally underwent a nine-hour transplant surgery at Boston Children's Hospital on Friday, the Telegram & Gazette reported. Carlos, who was born with a congenital heart defect, underwent several heart surgeries before the age of 2. His heart started failing in March 2016 and he was placed on the waiting list for a heart transplant. After his health continued to deteriorate, Carlos was admitted to the hospital on Aug. 31 to wait until a heart could be found.

ing the ability of performers to dance.

"The Constitution does not permit the deprivation of First Amendment rights based on the age of ... citizens who have attained the age of 18," attorneys Gary Edinger and James Benjamin argued in a complaint filed in the names of 13 businesses and four dancers, two of them under age 21.

The Florida Times-Union reported that after the law was signed, the clubs were prevented from using close to 100 dancers under age 21 during a two-week period, according to the lawsuit.

The 140-page suit noted that people under 21 can hold any other job at those businesses, even own the clubs.

## Trooper and driver sent to hospital after fight

**MD** CHESTERTOWN — A Maryland state trooper and a motorist were treated for injuries following an altercation early Saturday that began when the officer spotted a

suspicious vehicle and ended in a vehicle pursuit, a news release said.

Maryland State Police said that the driver, who was later taken into custody, had what appeared to be a gunshot wound to the upper torso.

The suspect was flown to the University of Maryland shock trauma center in Baltimore. The trooper, whom officers found lying in a ditch and may have been dragged by the vehicle, was also treated at the center, police said.

## Bison euthanized after escape from preserve

**TN** CROSSVILLE — Four bison, one weighing around 1,800 pounds, that escaped from a private hunting preserve in Tennessee were euthanized after attempts to recapture the animals failed, authorities said.

The small herd broke loose from an enclosed area and had been roaming through an area in Crossville since Monday, The Crossville Chronicle reported.

Cumberland County Sheriff Casey Cox said that off-duty Deputy Roy Kemmer had attempted to help the owner round up the animals, but the bison continued to evade recapture.

"(Kemmer) told me that the buffaloes would be grazing and as soon as those trying to recapture them got within 150 yards, the animals would smell their presence, raise their heads and take off," Cox said.

## Researcher believes he has ID'd shipwreck

**ME** PORTLAND — A researcher believes that he has identified the mysterious shipwreck that appears from time to time in the right conditions on a beach in York.

The ship's remains, which were last exposed by a nor'easter in 2018, are likely those of the Defiance, a sloop that washed ashore during a violent storm in 1769, said researcher Stefan Claesson, owner of Nearview, an aerial drone and archaeological surveying company.

The Defiance was built in 1754 in Massachusetts, which fits with historical documents and tree-ring dating conducted by Cornell University, he said.

But, he said, "additional historical research and archaeological investigations are needed to confirm the identification."

From wire reports

## FACES



# Celebs: Kinda just like us

## Famous folks revealing closer glimpses during quarantine

By MARK KENNEDY  
Associated Press

Portia de Rossi has been teaching herself how to cook during the coronavirus lockdown. It's been an eye-opening experience for the actress — and for her fans.

She's cut herself and been burned, yes. She's also discovered she doesn't like some Indian flavors and that her wife, talk show host Ellen DeGeneres, isn't a fan of curry and garbanzo beans.

"We're learning a lot about each other in quarantine," she admits on Instagram.

We are indeed learning a lot about each other these days, and that's especially true with our celebrities. Social distancing has meant they have no army of publicists or glam squad. They're bored and unfettered — and often incredibly relatable.

Cardi B recently inexplicably ran headfirst into a massive Jenga tower, and a daffy Madonna sang her hit "Vogue" into a hairbrush but changed the lyrics to include fried fish. Hillary Swank learned to crochet — and now has a new knit hat to prove it. Ariana Grande showed off her natural hair, and Marlee Matlin put on her old wedding dress. "I'm losing my mind, but what else is there to do?" she wrote.

Stuck inside, Justin Bieber reverted to a childhood objective. Clad in a onesie and a winter hat, the singer appeared a round of "The Floor Is Lava" in his massive living room, leaping onto cushions, chairs, footstools, two skateboards and a roller. The video has been seen over 9 million times.

"I think now people need the human touch even more, and I think celebrities really understand that," says Neal Schaffer, a social media strategy consultant whose new book is "The Age of Influence." "People want to relate to real things, real people."

While some influencers and stars continue to post a flood of flattering, carefully stage-managed images with every hair in place, others are indeed mirroring us — unshaven, unwashed and not ashamed.

"When I drink, I get really, really brilliant ideas," the singer Pink confessed recently. "And last night, I got an idea — I can cut hair." She then reveals some choppy, shaved spots on her head.

Celebrities, it turns out, really are just like us: They get drunk and do stupid stuff, too. And they're like us in another way: Pink later announced that she also had contracted the virus.

The coronavirus has also unlocked places we never expected to go, like Selena Gomez's bathroom and inside Broadway star Adrienne Warren's bathtub. We've gotten to inspect Rosie O'Donnell's messy garage art studio.

Theater icon Patti LaPone was taking part in a livestreamed benefit led by O'Donnell when the actor's fiancé grew enchanted by something they'd never seen before: Lupone's cool basement. They



FOX photos

**Celebrities such as singers (top to bottom) Tim McGraw, Lady Gaga and Lizzo appeared from home, and in much more casual garb than fans are used to, for last month's FOX's iHeart Living Room Concert for America.**

could see a colorful, light-up vintage jukebox and a wall rack stacked with cassette tapes.

So LuPone leaned into the interest, later making little video tours on Twitter that include her subterranean one-armed bandit, a massage table, mementos, her desk and a pinball machine. "I have so much to show you," she says.

Yuval Ben-Itzhak, the CEO of Socialbakers, a social media marketing company, has noticed the trend and encourages it. He suspects fans will reward the more honest of celebrities at the other end of this crisis.

"By giving their audience a glimpse into their lives — from showing their homes, their families or themselves looking casual, like people typically do at home — celebrities are likely to actually increase their engagement," Ben-Itzhak says. "Users seem to really engage with natural, authentic-looking content, especially right now. It gives a feeling of 'We're all in this together.'"

We may be all in this together, but we're not equal. After all, celebs may be just like us, except they're usually much richer. The new intimate view we have of the famous reveals a chasm: Bieber's living room is large enough to fit several regular living rooms. Not everyone can self-isolate on a yacht.

# CBS' 'All Rise' to produce TV episode at a distance

Associated Press

The courtroom drama series "All Rise" is resuming production with an episode reflecting the coronavirus crisis in the lives of its characters, the CBS network said Monday.

The episode will follow social distancing rules and be taped remotely using social media and other digital technology, CBS said. "All Rise," as with other TV programs and movies, had suspended production because of the pandemic.

"It's a unique chance for our 'All Rise' family to band together — in our different homes, even cities — to tell a story about resilience, justice and the power of community," Greg Spottiswood, the drama's executive producer said in a statement.

Although late-night shows are back on air with their hosts working remotely, freshman drama "All Rise" appears to be the first series to return to production.

The episode, set to air May 4, will reflect the pandemic's impact on the justice system, CBS said. Series star Simone Missick's



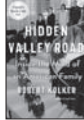
CBS

**"All Rise," starring Simone Missick, appears to be the first television series to return to production since the outbreak of the coronavirus.**

Judge Lola Carmichael will virtually preside over a trial that involves an argument between brothers and a stolen car. Footage will be shot in cast members' homes, with special effects used to create the necessary backgrounds, CBS said.

## Oprah's next book pick: 'Hidden Valley Road'

Oprah Winfrey's new book club pick is Robert Kolker's "Hidden Valley Road," an in-depth account of a 1950s family in which six of 12 children were diagnosed with schizophrenia. Winfrey says she will continue picking books during the coronavirus outbreak, and will seek new ways to engage readers.



In announcing his new Tuesday, Winfrey called "Hidden Valley Road" "a riveting true story of an American family that reads like a medical detective journey. It reveals the shame, denial, shock, confusion and misunderstanding of mental illness at a time when no one was really sure what schizophrenia was or how to treat it."

"Hidden Valley Road" tells the story of the Galvins, an attractive, high-achieving Colorado family that was devastated by the illness. Kolker learned about them four years ago through a mutual friend and received extensive cooperation, speaking with nine of the siblings and their mother, and also drawing upon family letters, diaries and medical records.

In a review that ran in The New York Times, Sam Dolnick praised Kolker as a gifted storyteller and an unflinching and unsentimental chronicler of a family where who is able to effectively set a mood," Kolker has written for New York magazine and Bloomberg and is the author of "Lost Girls," which has been adapted into a Netflix film.

Kolker's new book, released this week, is Winfrey's fourth selection since starting a partnership with Apple last fall.

## Concert industry could lose \$9 billion this year

A report released April 3 by the live-event trade publication and research firm Pollstar lays out the scope of damage that the novel coronavirus could wreak on the live music business. Pollstar projects that revenue for the industry could be down by as much as \$9 billion in 2020, a decline without parallel in the modern music business.

Pollstar's report lays out a variety of scenarios based on how long it takes to beat back the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 — none of them good, some of them awful. Live Nation and AEG, the dominant promoters in the industry, have already canceled or postponed all current tours. Of the initial \$12.2 billion projected for the year in box office receipts, \$8.9 billion is still unspoken for and could be lost if the industry remains dark for the rest of 2020.

If touring resumes in late August, the projected drop in revenue would total around \$5.2 billion. If venues could somehow reopen in late May — an increasingly remote possibility — that figure would drop to \$2.3 billion.

## Christopher Cross, John Taylor test positive

Grammy-winning artist Christopher Cross announced on social media April 3 that he had tested positive for COVID-19.

The 68-year-old singer-songwriter, best known for the hits "Sailing" and "Arthur's Theme," called the virus "possibly the worst illness I've ever had."

Duran Duran bassist John Taylor took to Facebook Sunday to announce that he was in recovery from the disease.

From wire reports



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## OPINION

## The pandemic will pass. Our grief will endure.

By EDDIE S. GLAUDE JR.

*Special to The Washington Post*

Americans have been told to brace themselves for a difficult days ahead. The numbers are uncertain, but mass death is at our doorstep. If we do everything right and shelter in place, we may still see between 100,000 and 240,000 dead. These are staggering numbers, but more importantly they are real people. Mothers and fathers, uncles and aunts, daughters and sons, friends — people whose deaths will disrupt the lives of families and rend the fabric of communities across this nation. Those who survive this madness will have to figure out how to live together in the company of grief.

We've already heard stories of Americans dying in quarantine and families longing to be with them in their final hour. Under these conditions, people are not able to grieve properly. They cannot perform the traditional rituals surrounding death. They have to sit shiva alone. They can't have the wake or home-going service with family and friends at the repast. They can't participate in a second-line parade in New Orleans.

This virus challenges how we think life should end. People shouldn't be alone when they die, without someone holding their hand, running their fingers through their hair, and offering a loving face for eyes to look upon one last time. But they will die, and some will die alone, and loved ones will have to live with debilitating regret: that they didn't get a chance to say "I love you" or to give that life the respect it deserves with the rituals of mourning. This sense of regret will cling to their grief, giving it jagged edges that repeatedly cut and wound.

## Sikhs attacked by terrorists, not just 'criminals'

By DAWINDER "DAVE" S. SIDHU

*Special to Stars and Stripes*

Americans have been told to brace themselves for a difficult days ahead. The numbers are uncertain, but mass death is at our doorstep. If we do everything right and shelter in place, we may still see between 100,000 and 240,000 dead. These are staggering numbers, but more importantly they are real people. Mothers and fathers, uncles and aunts, daughters and sons, friends — people whose deaths will disrupt the lives of families and rend the fabric of communities across this nation. Those who survive this madness will have to figure out how to live together in the company of grief.

On March 25, over 150 Sikhs assembled in their place of worship in Kabul, Afghanistan, to pray for sacrifices for God's support during the pandemic. In the middle of services, a group of ISIS fighters stormed the temple, lobbed grenades, fired on worshippers, and held around 80 hostages for about six hours. After the siege, 25 Sikhs, women and children among them, were dead.

The very next day, at the funeral for those lost, a bomb exploded directly outside of the congregation's place of worship, interrupted the solemn services and unleashed a fresh round of terror on the survivors and the Afghan Sikh community.

Outside of the Sikh diaspora, these attacks barely registered with political leaders, the mainstream media or the general public. In light of the almost existential, worldwide danger posed by the coronavirus, the Kabul incident may seem unworthy of any attention or a considered response.

This perspective would be consistent with the long-standing view that, in a time of crisis, government and public energies must be directed toward the crisis and the crisis alone. Cicero once observed that, in times of war, the laws fall silent. In more recent times, judges and others have claimed that a rule of necessity trumps the

## This virus challenges how we think life should end.

In "A Grief Observed," C.S. Lewis wrote, "No one ever told me that grief felt so like fear. I am not afraid, but the sensation is like being afraid. The same fluttering in the stomach, the same restlessness, the yawning. I keep on swallowing." That sense of fearful grief will be a persistent feature of our national politics moving forward. Americans will carry their dead into the voting booths. Their dead will shadow assessments of the words of politicians. They will hover over our choices about the future of America.

This doesn't mean that the coronavirus will suddenly resolve the political and accidental divides that define our country today. In fact, the pandemic has revealed how deeply broken we already are. Rabid partisanship, crass individualism and breathtaking inequality have left brittle our sense of connection and bond. We are siled, segregated and left to our own devices — of which intensifies the depth of grief in the face of mass death.

Appeals to American exceptionalism aren't helpful in such a moment. Uses of the metaphor of war to mobilize our national energies won't go very far. President Donald Trump does not inspire sacrifice and loyalty. Instead, one gets the feeling that, by Trump and his ilk, we are left alone to deal with the reality of death. Death is yours and yours alone, the president seems to suggest, while he concerns himself with opening up the economy again, because "that's who we are."

In the coming days, we will not be able to escape the grim reality of death. We will not be able to run past the fact that people

are dying with appeals to cold statistics and talk of "flattening the curve." We will not be able to banish death to the far reaches of our communities as we have done long ago with cemeteries. The makeshift morgues and temporary burial trenches will be a plain sight. We will not be able to ignore what is happening as we have done for decades with all of the carnage left in the wake of our never-ending wars and the consequences of cruel economic choices. Death is at our doorstep.

Americans have to find a way to grapple with and make sense of what is happening to us. Maybe we need periodic days of national mourning and prayer — some public ritual to acknowledge our collective sorrow. Perhaps a daily reading of the names of those who have died. Maybe we need to talk about a memorial to those who sacrifice their lives to save others. We have to do something as a country to confront all those bodies in the grave. With such things, as Lewis put it, "the act of living is different all through."

We must attend to our national grief. Mass death cannot be reduced to a private, individual moment. As Walt Whitman wrote in "The Million Dead, Too, Sum'd Up": "... the dead, the dead, the dead — our dead — ours all (all, all, finally, dear to me) — or East or West — Atlantic coast or Mississippi valley."

The dead are not yours and yours alone. They are ours — all of them. No matter the color of their skin, the people they loved, their ZIP code, the language they spoke, or the political party they supported — they are ours. We just have to figure out what ours will mean when colored by such unimaginable grief.

Eddie S. Glaude Jr. is chairman of the department of African American studies at Princeton University.

rule of law, with the Japanese and Muslims in America bearing the brunt of that trade-off. By ignoring the deaths of the Sikhs in Kabul, the otherwise civilized world unwittingly seems to agree that a crisis matters and, frankly, little else does.

In ordinary circumstances, the killing of the Sikhs in Afghanistan would matter. The mass shooting of innocent worshippers — as with the massacre of nine at a church in Charleston, S.C., 11 at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, and 51 in two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand — has drawn widespread condemnation, generous outpourings of support for the targeted community, and impassioned calls to bring those responsible to justice.

These incidents moved politicians, pundits and the public alike because they challenged the shared values that bind the civilized community together and that are an essential part of our constitutional heritage, including the freedom to worship. It is these identical values — not just the lives of Sikhs in Afghanistan — that were endangered last month. For this reason, the Kabul attack matters.

To think otherwise would be to permit circumstances to limit the scope of our sacred freedoms. To think otherwise would also be to send a message to ISIS and other antisocial actors that, during a crisis, religious freedom is unattended and religious minorities are free game. Silence is tantamount to indifference, at best, and a license to kill, at worst.

That said, the U.S. Embassy in Afghanistan did respond on Twitter — and perhaps should have stayed silent. The Embassy

called ISIS "fanatics & criminals," instead of terrorists. The terrorism label fits because ISIS indiscriminately killed a large number of innocents. The label is important because it helps people properly make sense of what happened. The Embassy added, "Peace will only come when people resolve their differences through words, not guns," guidance more suited to grade school children than to committed terrorists. In other words, the embassy's tweet was both conceptually sloppy and effectively empty.

To simultaneously address a life-threatening crisis and safeguard essential values is not just a theoretical possibility or aspiration. President George W. Bush's visit to a mosque just six days after 9/11 proves that government can promote and preserve broad values, thereby protecting religious minorities, even in the early moments of an unprecedented crisis.

Novel circumstances constitute a test that reveals the true character of a society and the seriousness of its commitment to its defining values. The failure to meaningfully acknowledge and respond to the killing of Afghan Sikhs was an unintentional misstep. We can correct course by, among other things, shedding light on this incident, resettling the remaining Afghan Sikhs, and putting all on notice that religious freedom will not be sacrificed in this uncertain time.

Dawinder "Dave" S. Sidhu is a lawyer, professor at the University of Maryland, former fellow at the U.S. State Department, and elected member in the Council on Foreign Relations. He is a Sikh American and serves on the Board of Trustees of a Sikh place of worship in Silver Spring, Md.

## OPINION

## Virus could be wreaking havoc on N. Korea

By OLIVIA SCHIEBER

Special to The Washington Post

In early March, North Korea triumphantly declared that it had absolutely no cases of the COVID-19 virus. Yet most analysts agree that available evidence suggests the opposite. If the regime's previous behavior in crises is any indication, we should expect it to respond with deceit, aggression and militarism, including increased arms-testing. Sadly, many North Koreans will likely die in the process.

In the 1990s, North Korea endured a catastrophic famine that likely killed millions. The North Korean government faced a series of shocks, including flooding, crop failure and the sudden end of Soviet subsidies. Government incompetence, indifference and theft of precious aid supplies all contributed to the chaos. By the time the Pyongyang government exhorted its people to shorten their so-called Arduous March (i.e. starvation) by eating only two meals a day, there was hardly enough for one for many.

Enter the coronavirus. The extreme measures North Korea has taken to prevent spread of the virus seem almost out of character. News of the first outbreak in China prompted the Kim Jong Un regime to immediately close its borders. Pyongyang ostensibly threatened to shoot anyone who even came close to the frontier. In February, the regime canceled a military parade celebrating the 72nd anniversary of the People's Army — what would normally be a highly publicized and well-attended event. Kim has even quarantined thousands of his own citizens and hundreds of foreigners.

Yet COVID-19 appears to have gained a foothold nonetheless. Nearly a dozen prisoners at Chongori Prison in North Hamgyong, known for housing North Koreans reportedly from China, have died of respiratory issues, prompting authorities to disinfect the entire prison. Additionally, 180 soldiers have presumably died of the virus (and another 3,700 were



Jon Chol Jin/AP

**People review information explaining the new coronavirus at Phyongchon District People's Hospital in Pyongyang, North Korea, on April 1.**

quarantined).

Last month, Kim Jong Un ordered construction on a new hospital in Pyongyang to be completed in a mere 200 days. (He claimed this was to coincide with the 75th founding of the Workers' Party.) And now North Korea has reportedly opened its borders with China slightly in an effort to bring in essentials, including medical-grade face masks and medicine.

Yet the regime still denies any cases of COVID-19. As it did during the 1990s famine, the North Korean government seeks to maintain an ironclad grip on the flow of information. Kim Jong Un has not been seen publicly wearing a mask, suggesting that "Dear Respected" wants to send a message of business as usual to the populace. And those deaths? The regime has attributed them to virtually every respiratory illness but COVID-19. (This is especially

easy to do when you lack the capacity to test for the virus on a large scale.)

It's also rumored that agents at North Korea's Ministry of State Security Bureau 10 have arrested North Koreans who attempted to discuss the virus via cellphone. Last month, an anonymous social media commentator claimed that the regime had executed the first COVID-19 patient in the country. Though this account hasn't been verified, the regime has been known to kill any citizen it regards as an existential threat, and a person carrying the virus capable of wreaking havoc on the country's economic and health care systems would almost certainly fit the bill.

Clamping down on information for the sake of controlling the narrative comes at a price. North Korea's attempts to conceal the 1990s famine meant that experts could not take early action because it was

impossible to investigate or exchange information. It wasn't until the famine had ravaged the country that Pyongyang asked for aid. We might see a similar situation with the coronavirus, which could rapidly overwhelm North Korea's primitive health care system.

Even in the face of a massive crisis, however, Pyongyang is unlikely to beg for help. Accepting aid is an act of humiliation for the regime. In the '90s, Kim Jong Il's government thwarted well-intentioned assistance by concealing the extent of devastation caused by the famine from the outside world, even ridding the capital of its most destitute and starving citizens. And humanitarian assistance is likely to come with expectations that no Kim regime has ever been willing to meet.

Indeed, last month's offer of assistance from President Donald Trump was met with a snub from Dear Respected's sister Kim Yo Jong. Given the subtext of most of Washington's overtures to Pyongyang, she might have assumed that coronavirus assistance would come with denuclearization strings attached, warning that North Korea would not be deceived by such "niceties."

Aid programs designed to sustain the North Korean people and roll back the government's aggressive militarism have never met their aims. During the famine, North Korea diverted food to its military in direct contravention of the terms on which the aid was received, and then test-fired a Taepodong-1 intermediate-range missile for fun.

Notwithstanding Trump's hopes, we can't count on COVID-19 to bring North Korea to the negotiating table. As if to underscore the point, the regime tested two ballistic missiles last week. While it's possible that Kim Jong Un will avoid the worst of his father's disastrous missteps of the '90s, the world's last Stalinist state cannot avoid them all. At what cost? We may never know.

Olivia Schieber is the senior program manager of the foreign and defense division at the American Enterprise Institute.

## The COVID-19 crisis will worsen when it hits rural areas

By MICHELLE A. WILLIAMS, BIZU GELAYE AND EMILY M. BROAD LEIB

Special to The Washington Post

Over the past few weeks, our urban centers have scrambled to mobilize in response to the mounting COVID-19 cases. But be forewarned: It's only a matter of time before the virus attacks small, often forgotten towns and rural counties. And that's where this disease will hit hardest.

COVID-19 is infiltrating more of the country with each passing day. Colorado, Utah and Idaho are grappling with sudden clusters in counties popular with out-of-state tourists. Cases are also skyrocketing in Southern states such as Georgia, Florida and Louisiana. So far, sparsely populated communities have been better insulated from the spread. But since no place in the United States is truly isolated, there's simply no outrunning this virus. Every community is at imminent risk.

Rural communities could fare far worse than their urban and suburban counterparts. Rural populations are older on average, with more than 20% above the age of 65. Rural populations also tend to have poorer overall health, suffering from higher rates of chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and lung conditions, all of which put them at greater risk of becoming

severely ill — or even dying — should they become infected.

Rural areas also already suffer from a rural mortality penalty, with a disparity in mortality rates between urban and rural areas that has been climbing since the 1980s. Chronic financial strain and the erosion of opportunity have contributed to "deaths of despair" as well as a rise in conditions such as heart disease, Type 2 diabetes and stroke. And in prolonged social distancing and the economic downturn, and these trends will surely worsen.

Long before the new coronavirus emerged as a threat, America's rural hospitals were already in dire financial straits. About 1 in 4 are vulnerable to being shuttered, with 120 having closed in the past decade. With the pandemic looming, many of these health systems have been forced to cancel elective procedures and non-urgent services such as physical therapy and lab tests, which in some cases account for half of their revenue. As cash flow wanes, the American Hospital Association warns that even more hospitals could be forced to shut their doors exactly when patients need them most.

Rural counties have just 5,600 intensive care beds total, compared with more than 50,000 in urban counties. In fact, half of U.S. counties do not have any ICU beds. And even if these counties are somehow able to

scale up their infrastructure, experts are afraid there will not be enough health care workers to staff them. The time to prepare rural America is now. Fortunately, rural health systems will get some relief from the stimulus bill, which allocated \$100 billion to health care providers. But it is critical that we find additional ways to alleviate the burden on these health systems to the greatest extent possible.

One way to do that is by expanding telemedicine capabilities, which will allow millions of Americans to be seen by care providers even if there's no room for them in hospitals. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services recently issued guidelines that expand access to telemedicine for Americans on Medicare. That directive now includes federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics and hospices, so they, too, can be reimbursed for serving patients remotely.

Of course, telemedicine is far from a panacea, as broadband access remains limited in so much of rural America. The stimulus included an additional \$100 million for rural broadband access, but this will not be enough. In the long term, policymakers must continue to close the "digital divide," recognizing that internet access is both an economic and health necessity. In the short term, internet service providers should consider rolling out mobile internet

units and providing WiFi hotspot access to temporarily increase connectivity.

More importantly, we must expand the social safety net, especially the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, child nutrition programs, Supplemental Security Income, housing assistance and more. Lawmakers must also ensure the availability of these programs to rural residents. For example, unlike their urban counterparts, many rural children cannot come to schools each day to pick up meals. The Agriculture Department launched a pilot program to deliver meals to rural children in some regions, but initiatives such as this should be more widespread.

It is clear the battle against COVID-19 will look vastly different in the heartland than in our cities. The U.S. Navy won't be docking a floating hospital in Nuckolls County, Neb. But if what's happened in America's coastal cities can teach us anything, it's that the coming weeks will determine the trajectory of this virus. And we don't have a moment to waste.

Michelle A. Williams is dean of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Bizu Gelaye is an assistant professor at Harvard and Massachusetts General Hospital. Emily M. Broad Leib is a law professor, director of the Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic, and deputy director of the Harvard Law School Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation.

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## SCOREBOARD/SOCCER/MMA/MLB

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## Deals

## Monday's transactions

**FOOTBALL**  
**National Football League**  
**ATLANTA FALCONS** — Signed RB Todd Gurley to a one-year contract.  
**JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS** — Re-signed DT Carl Davis.  
**MIAMI DOLPHINS** — Announced that LB Vionnie Biegel has signed a one-year tender.  
**SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS** — Announced WR Kendrick Boone has signed his one-year tender.

**HOCKEY**  
**National Hockey League**  
**ARIZONA COYOTES** — Signed G David Tondello to a three-year contract.  
**COLLEGE**  
**FORDHAM** — Named Ed Kull interim director of athletics.  
**MARQUETTE** — Named Troy Coleman assistant women's basketball coach.

## Pro football

## NFL calendar

**April 17** — Deadline for restricted free agents to sign offer sheets.  
**April 23-25** — NFL Draft, remote locations.  
**May 19** — Spring owners meeting, Marina del Rey, Calif.  
**Late July** — Training camps scheduled to open.  
**Aug. 6** — Hall of Fame game, Canton, Ohio.  
**Aug. 8** — Hall of Fame inductions, Canton, Ohio.  
**Sept. 8** — Final roster cutdown to 53.  
**Sept. 10** — Kickoff game to open regular season.  
**Sept. 13** — First full regular-season schedule.

## Pro baseball

## MLB calendar

**TBA** — Opening day, active rosters reduced to 26 players.  
**June 3-4** — Owners meeting, New York.  
**June 10-10 July 20** — Amateur draft period begins.  
**June 15** — International amateur signing period opens.  
**July 2-Jan. 15** — International amateur signing period opens.  
**July 19-Aug. 1** — Deadline for drafted players to sign, except for players who have exceeded college eligibility.  
**July 14** — All-Star Game in Los Angeles.  
**July 26** — Hall of Fame induction, Cooperstown, N.Y.  
**Aug. 21** — Last day during the season to trade a player.  
**Aug. 22** — Chicago White Sox at Dyersville, Iowa.  
**Aug. 23** — Boston vs. Baltimore at Williamsport, Pa.  
**Aug. 31** — Last day to be contracted to active roster and eligible for post-season roster.  
**Sept. 1** — Active rosters expand to 28 players.  
**Sept. 29-30** — Wild-card games.  
**Oct. 20** — World Series starts.  
**October TBA** — Trading rumors, day after World Series.  
**November TBA** — Deadline for teams to make roster trading offers to their eligible former players who became free agents, five days after World Series.  
**November TBA** — Deadline for free agents to accept qualifying offers, 15th day after World Series.  
**Dec. 2** — Last day for teams to offer 2021 contracts to unsigned players on their 40-man rosters.  
**Dec. 10** — All of the new Golden Days Era committee vote announced, Dallas.  
**Dec. 7-10** — Winter meetings, Dallas.

## AP spotlight

**April 8**  
**1935** — Gene Sarazen gets a double eagle on the 15th hole to erase Craig Wood's three-stroke lead, and goes on to win the Masters.  
**1963** — Bob Burke, Jr. comes back from eight strokes behind to beat Ken Venturi by one stroke and win the Masters.  
**1974** — In the home opener in Atlanta, Hank Aaron breaks Babe Ruth's career record by hitting his 715th home run, connecting off Al Downing of Los Angeles at home.  
**2007** — Zach Johnson hits three clutch birdies on the back nine of Augusta National, to close with a 69 for a two-shot victory over Tiger Woods at the Masters.

US alleges bribes  
in World Cup votes

By RONALD BLUM  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Prosecutors revealed new details of alleged bribes paid to FIFA executive committee members to gain their votes for Qatar to host the 2022 World Cup and charged a pair of former 21st Century Fox executives with making illegal payments to win broadcast rights for the 2018 and 2022 tournaments.

An indictment unsealed Monday in U.S. District Court in Brooklyn names Nicolas Leoz, then president of the South American governing body CONMEBOL, and former Brazil federation president Ricardo Teixeira received bribes to vote for Qatar at the 2010 FIFA executive committee meeting.

Jack Warner of Trinidad and Tobago, president of the North and Central American and Caribbean governing body CONCACAF, received \$5 million in bribes to vote for Russia to host in 2018 from 10 different shell companies that included entities in Anguilla, Cyprus and the British Virgin Islands, the indictment alleged. Guatemala federation president Rafael Salguero was promised a \$1 million bribe to vote for Russia, according to the indictment.

Leoz, who died last August, avoided extradition, as have War-

ner and Teixeira. Salguero pleaded guilty in 2018 to two counts of wire fraud conspiracy and one count each of racketeering conspiracy and money laundering conspiracy.

Alejandro Burzaco, former head of the marketing company Torneos y Competencias, testified in 2017 that all three South Americans on the FIFA executive committee took million-dollar bribes to support Qatar, which prevailed over the U.S. 14-8.

Former 21st Century Fox Inc. executives — Hernan Lopez and Carlos Martinez — were charged Monday with making payments to CONMEBOL officials to obtain broadcast rights bidding information from a co-conspirator whose identity was not revealed.

ESPN had U.S. English-language television rights to the World Cup from 1994-2014, but Fox in 2011 gained the rights for the 2018 and 2022 tournaments. After the 2022 tournament in Qatar was shifted from summer to late autumn, a time when it is likely to get less attention in the U.S., FIFA awarded Fox rights for 2026 without competitive bidding.

Also charged in the indictment are former Imagina Media Audiovisual CEO Gerard Romy, and the Uruguayan sports marketing company Full Play Group SA.

## Raising: Nothing's official yet

## FROM BACK PAGE

to endorse any particular form for staging games in light of the rapidly changing public health situation caused by the coronavirus."

Half of the MLB clubs hold spring training in Arizona, the other half in Florida.

Arizona's advantage is 10 spring training ballparks plus the Arizona Diamondbacks' Chase Field all within about 50 miles. Florida's spring training ballparks are spread out by as much as 220 miles.

"It allows for immediacy of a schedule, where you might be able to begin it and televise it, provide Major League Baseball to America," said Scott Boras, baseball's most prominent agent. "I think players are willing to do what's necessary because I think they understand the importance of baseball for their own livelihoods and for the interest of our country and providing a necessary product that gives all the people that are isolated enjoyment."

"It gives them a sense of a return to some normalcy," Boras added. "You talk to a psychologist about it and they say it's really good for a culture to have sport and to have a focus like that, where for a few hours a day they can take their minds off the difficult reality of the virus."

Boras' season had been set to start March 26 but spring train-

ing was halted on March 12. After the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended restricting events of more than 50 people for eight weeks, MLB said it would not open until mid-May at the earliest, he said.

Texas Rangers president of baseball operations Jon Daniels said MLB is examining different options and he didn't want to speculate.

"But, obviously, we'd all love to find a way to play, provided we could do safely, and that would be the priority," he said. "The players' association would want to survey its members to determine whether they would support such a plan, one of the people said."

"You're going to be largely separated from your families and you're going to have to function in a very contained way. It's not a normal life, this idea," Boras said. "You're going to have an identified group of people. You're going to have a constantly tested group of people. And you're going to have a very limited access of those people to the outside world so that you can assure a very uncontaminated league, if you will, to produce a product that is inspirational to our country."

Chase Field, with artificial turf and a retractable roof, could be the site of daily tripleheaders, Boras said.

AP sports writer Stephen Hawkins in Texas contributed to this report.



KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI/AP

Tony Ferguson, right, punches Donald Cerrone during their lightweight bout at UFC 238 on June 8 in Chicago. The UFC says Ferguson will fight Justin Gaethje for the interim lightweight title in the main event of UFC 249 on April 18.

## UFC 249 still on

Ferguson to fight Gaethje on April 18  
'somewhere on EARTH!', tweets White

By GREG BEACHAM  
Associated Press

UFC 249 is still on schedule for April 18, with Tony Ferguson fighting Justin Gaethje for an interim lightweight title in the main event.

Although UFC President Dana White hasn't announced a venue for his promotion's biggest pay-per-view show of the spring, he remains determined to hold an event in less than two weeks amid the coronavirus pandemic.

The mixed martial arts promotion announced the change to UFC 249's main event bout Monday. Gaethje replaces lightweight champ Khabib Nurmagomedov, who is apparently unable to leave Russia amid the pandemic.

"The fight is signed and is 100% ON LIVE on ESPN somewhere on EARTH!!!!" White tweeted Monday.

White has remained steadfast in his plan for the UFC to fight on while virtually all high-level sports competition has stopped around the world. Even if the UFC fights without fans as expected, most U.S. states and developed nations have restrictions in place that would make it impossible to stage an MMA show.

White later told TMZ he is attempting to secure the use of a private island to hold several shows over the next two months, flying the fighters and support personnel to the island on private planes. He said the UFC will screen the health of every participant before the fights occur.

White also confirmed several additional matchups for UFC 249. Former strawweight champions Rose Namajunas and Jessica Andrade will meet in the penultimate bout, and heavyweights Francis Ngannou and Jair Rozenstruik also will compete.

White's quest hit another obstacle later Monday when the As-

sociation of Ringside Physicians issued a statement calling for the indefinite suspension of all combat sports events.

"Any combat sport taking place during this global pandemic places the athletes, officials, and anyone else involved in the event under unnecessary risk of infection and transmission of COVID-19," ARP's statement read. "In addition, combat sports athletes often require medical attention after a bout, and we do not wish to see any additional strain on an already overwhelmed medical system."

To hold an event, White will have to find ringside physicians willing to work against the ARP's recommendation. The UFC already is likely to be forced to hire its own judges and referees while serving as its own regulatory body, since most state athletic commissions will not currently allow an event to take place in their jurisdictions.

Although others speculated that White would attempt to stage his fights on tribal lands on the West Coast, a private island might be the most logical place for White's illogical quest.

White has steadily attempted to buck the rest of the sports world's collective plan for handling the pandemic over the past five weeks. The UFC held a full fight card in an empty arena in Brazil last month, but was forced to cancel its ensuing three scheduled shows when not even the promotion's native Nevada would allow it to hold fights in an empty arena.

Most UFC fighters have expressed an eagerness to fight during the pandemic. Mixed martial artists typically don't get paid unless they fight, although Bellator and other promotions have paid fighters whose bouts were canceled by the pandemic in recent weeks.

# NBA/NHL

# Potential playoff foes are concern of NBA coaches

By KYLE HIGHTOWER  
Associated Press

With NBA games indefinitely on hold, there has been a lot of discussion about postseason possibilities — including by coaches around the league. They're preparing for what a resumption of the season that was shut down March 11 could look like in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Toronto coach Nick Nurse said he's trying to prepare for every possibility that would allow the Raptors a chance to defend their title.

"We're ready for whatever is thrown at us," Nurse said. "What matters is that we attack the title in whatever format it's going to be presented in and we go for it."

No one knows what will be thrown at the NBA or the rest of the sports world. Guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advising against large gatherings make the calendar a major factor in how the league could resume its season.

The ideas are many, from a shortened version of the remaining schedule possible without fans to the very real possibility of jumping straight into the playoffs to ensure a season is completed before the end of summer.

Milwaukee coach Mike Budenholzer said he has spent part of this hiatus studying the Orlando Magic and Brooklyn Nets — the Bucks' two most likely first-round playoff foes — as well as other Eastern Conference teams.

Nurse had already begun thinking postseason before the season was suspended.

"When we hit March 1, we've got a kind of playoff prepping plan in place that kicks in," the Raptors coach said. "We spread the teams around our staff members and they prepare a pretty detailed couple of hour video sessions."

"They would normally come into my office and start showing that to me one-on-one. It's a two-hour video that we go through probably in the last three hours on certain teams in the East and then a handful of them in the West as well."

"The coaches were started in on that already and they'll continue on that. The only difference is there's no real one-on-one time with me yet. They'll probably just have to send me their edit and then I'll just have to watch them and talk to them on the phone."

If the NBA resumes the season with the start of the postseason, Nurse and Toronto would be No. 2 seed in the East and would host No. 7 Brooklyn. Other matchups would be No. 1 Milwaukee vs. No. 8 Orlando; No. 3 Boston vs. No.

## NBA scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	46 <td>18</td> <td>.719</td> <td>—</td>	18	.719	—
Boston	43	21	.672	3
Philadelphia	39	26	.600	7½
Brooklyn	30	34	.469	16
New York	21	45	.318	26
Southeast Division				
Miami	41	24	.631	—
Orlando	30	35	.462	11
Washington	24	40	.375	16½
Charlotte	23	42	.354	18
Atlanta	20	47	.299	22
Central Division				
Milwaukee	53	12	.815	—
Indiana	39	26	.600	14
Chicago	22	42	.338	31
Phoenix	20	46	.303	33½
Detroit	16	46	.254	39
Cleveland	19	46	.292	34

### Western Conference

Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	40	24	625	—
Dallas	40	27	597	1½
Memphis	32	33	492	8½
New Orleans	28	38	428	12½
San Antonio	27	36	429	12½
Northwest Division				
Denver	43	22	662	—
Utah	41	23	641	1½
Oklahoma City	40	24	625	2½
Portland	29	37	439	14½
Minnesota	19	49	287	23½
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	49	14	778	—
L.A. Clippers	44	20	688	5½
Sacramento	28	36	438	21½
Phoenix	26	39	400	24
Golden State	15	50	231	35
All games postponed at least one day.				

All games postponed at least until mid-May.

6 Philadelphia; and No. 4 Miami vs. No. 5 Indiana.

In the West: No. 1 L.A. Lakers vs. No. 8 Memphis; No. 2 L.A. Clippers vs. No. 7 Dallas; No. 3 Denver vs. No. 6 Houston; No. 4 Utah vs. No. 5 Oklahoma City.

As good as the matchups look on paper, the play could be sloppy.

Celtics center Enes Kanter estimates it would take at least two to three weeks for players to get their bodies in game shape. Part of the reason, he said, is the time players have had away from the court.

Kanter believes a training camp-like week would probably be needed.

"You can't just say 'OK, we're going to play the games a week later.' Some players are doing some things. Some players are in their apartments not doing anything," Kanter said during a conference call. "We need to make sure everybody is doing their stuff and is in good shape to go out there and compete if we jump straight into playoffs."

Kanter said a training camp setting would also help players refocus. He said while he's staying in shape, he's also spending time reading, watching documentaries and teaching himself to cook and play the piano.

Time is not the NBA's friend. Tuesday marked the 27th day of the shutdown, a stoppage that has already cost the league more than 100 games.



The Philadelphia Flyers' Tyler Pittick, left, tries to jump past the Pittsburgh Penguins' Jack Johnson during a Jan. 21 game in Philadelphia. It's unclear when or if the coronavirus pandemic-delayed NHL playoffs — which were supposed to begin Wednesday — will be played or what form they'll resemble.

MATT SLOCUM/AP

# NHL playoff solutions are all over the ice, for now

By JOHN WAWROW  
AND STEPHEN WHYNO  
Associated Press

Shorts and skates don't usually mix. Maintaining NHL-quality ice in August or holding a Stanley Cup Final in September? Those are far from the norm, too.

With the NHL playoffs, which were to begin Wednesday, on indefinite hold because of the coronavirus pandemic, anything and everything is on the table if Commissioner Gary Bettman's objective to complete the season is to be realized.

What the format will be, when play might realistically resume and whether the NHL might require games at neutral sites — how's North Dakota sound? — is anyone's guess.

"Those are all fair questions but not ones that we have to resolve right away," NHL Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly said, likening the situation for the league to a "a multifaceted puzzle."

Over the weekend, the governors of New York and California tamped down President Donald Trump's hope of sports resuming in August. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said: "I would love to see sports back to help with cabin fever. ... But this is not about hopes and dreams and aspirations and what you would like to see."

The NHL, which postponed play March 12, has several times pushed back its self-quarantine guideline — it's now April 15 — before players can even think about reporting to team facilities. The date is expected to be extended again.

Wherever and whenever the Stanley Cup is awarded, one thing will still hold true as far as Pittsburgh general manager Jim

## NHL scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Boston	70	44	14	12	100	227
Tampa Bay	70	43	21	6	92	245
Toronto	70	36	25	9	81	238
Florida	69	35	26	8	78	231
Montreal	71	31	31	9	71	212
Buffalo	69	30	31	8	68	195
Ottawa	71	25	34	12	62	191
Detroit	71	17	49	5	39	145

Metropolitan Division						
Washington	69	41	20	8	90	240
Philadelphia	69	41	21	7	89	232
Pittsburgh	69	40	23	6	86	224
Carolina	68	38	25	5	81	222
Columbus	70	33	22	15	81	180
N.Y. Islanders	68	35	23	10	80	192
N.Y. Rangers	70	37	28	5	79	234
New Jersey	69	28	29	12	68	189

### Western Conference

Central Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	71	42	19	10	94	225	193
Colorado	70	42	20	8	92	237	191
Dallas	69	37	24	8	82	180	177
Winnipeg	71	37	28	6	80	216	203
Nashville	69	35	26	8	78	215	217
Minnesota	69	35	27	7	77	220	218
Chicago	70	32	30	8	72	213	215

Pacific Division									
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GP	W	L	OT	Pts
Vegas	71	39	24	8	86	225	217	218	219
Edmonton	71	37	25	9	83	225	217	218	219
Calgary	70	36	27	7	79	210	215	216	217
Vancouver	69	36	27	6	78	228	217	218	219
Arizona	70	33	29	8	74	195	187	188	189
Anaheim	71	29	33	9	67	187	226	217	218
Los Angeles	70	29	35	6	64	178	212	213	214
San Jose	70	29	36	5	63	182	226	217	218

All games postponed at least until early May.

Rutherford is concerned.

"Whoever wins it, it is going to feel the same whenever they win it, on whatever day they win it, as it would winning it normally in the middle of June," he said.

The latest of the Cup has been awarded is June 24, in 1995 and 2013, with both instances following lockout-shortened seasons. The pandemic, however, has no timetable.

That leads to questions over whether the NHL will have time to squeeze in any of the remaining 189 regular-season games to determine seedings, or skip directly

to the playoffs based on the current standings, be it based on total points or points percentages.

In the percentage scenario, the ninth-place New York Islanders would have the edge over the eighth-place Columbus Blue Jackets in the Eastern Conference. In the West, seventh-place Winnipeg would be the odd team out with Vancouver in.

Other possibilities include expanding the playoff format to take into account the uneven amount of games teams have played.

New Jersey defenseman P.K. Subban proposed a 31-team format — every team in the league

— which might be the only way the Metropolitan's last-place Devils qualify.

Others raised the need to play as many regular-season games as feasible to preserve the integrity of the playoffs, as well as a need to acclimate to the action.

The need for tune-up games was not lost on Oilers captain Connor McDavid. Edmonton faces the prospect of opening the playoffs against Calgary — a rivalry that featured several penalty-filled regular-season matchups.

"I don't think you can just step into the playoffs, Game 1, have Calgary come to Edmonton and guys just run around and kill each other and haven't played a game in two months," McDavid said.

Flames captain Mark Giordano noted the playoffs would be additionally competitive because teams would feature healthy rosters, given the amount of time players have had to recover.

"And don't forget the goalsies. You can train and practice and stuff, but when you get to camp, I find the NHL shot and speed of the game is something you have to catch up on," Vegas goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury said.

NFL

# All-Decade Team includes 8 unanimous picks

By BARRY WILNER  
Associated Press

Von Miller had to catch his breath after finding out he got every vote for the 2010s All-Decade Team.

Miller, Tom Brady, J.J. Watt and Adrian Peterson are among eight unanimous selections to the 2010s NFL All-Decade Team announced Monday by the NFL and the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

"I never dreamed about making the All-Decade Team," Miller said. "You think about Super Bowls ... but this is such an honor that's so hard to get that you don't really even think about it. It's incredible to be here. It's incredible to achieve this honor."

Aaron Donald, Joe Thomas, Marshal Yanda and Justin Tucker also are on every ballot of the 48-member Hall of Fame selection committee. All but tackle Thomas and guard Yanda are active.

The 55-member team is comprised only of players who made an AP All-Pro team, a Pro Bowl or a Pro Football Writers of America all-conference squad from 2010-19. Four of the unanimous players — Brady, Miller, Yanda and Tucker — won Super Bowls during the decade.

"Being elected unanimously is really, really cool," said Tucker, who has worked with the same long snapper and holder since breaking into the NFL in 2012.



PHOTOS BY ALEX GALLARDO, ABOVE, ELISE AMENDOLA, BELOW LEFT, AND GREGORY BULL, BELOW RIGHT/AP

Los Angeles Rams defensive end Aaron Donald, above, was a unanimous choice for the 2010s NFL All-Decade Team, along with seven others, including New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, below left, now with Tampa Bay, and Denver Broncos outside linebacker Von Miller, below right.

"There's kind of a lot going on in the world right now, so it's hard to be super excited about stuff that happens in the football world, but it is still an incredible honor."

"It's something that I wouldn't have had a chance at if it wasn't for all the great people around me. It starts with (long snapper) Morgan Cox and (holder) Sam Koch on the field and includes (kicking consultant) Randy Brown, (former special teams coach) Jerry Rosburg, (current special teams coach) Chris Horton, coach (John) Harbaugh. They provide an environment for us as a special teams unit to thrive."

Seattle has the most honorees with five: linebacker Bobby Wagner, safety Earl Thomas, cornerback Richard Sherman, running back Marshawn Lynch and coach Pete Carroll.

Brady is joined at quarterback by another NFL champion, Green Bay's Aaron Rodgers. Brady, of course, took three of his six Super Bowl victories during the decade with New England, going 141-42 overall, and recently left the Patriots as a free agent for Tampa

Bay. Rodgers won 112-63-2 in the decade.

Peterson, the only non-quarterback to win MVP honors in the 10-season span, is accompanied by Lynch, Frank Gore and LeSean McCoy in the backfield. Darren Sproles is the flex player — and one of the punt returners.

Calvin Johnson, who becomes eligible for the Hall of Fame next year, is joined by Julio Jones, Larry Fitzgerald and Antonio Brown at wideout. The tight ends are Rob Gronkowski and Travis Kelce. Along with Thomas, the tackles are Jason Peters, Joe Staley and Tyron Smith. Yanda's fellow guards are Zack Martin, Logan Mankins and Jahiri Evans. Alex Mack and Maurkice Pouncey are the centers.

Up front on defense with end Watt, a three-time Defensive Player of the Year, and tackle Donald are ends Calais Campbell, Cam Jordan and Julius Peppers, and tackles Geno Atkins, Fletcher Cox and Ndamukong Suh.

Wagner's and Miller's mates at linebacker are recently retired Luke Kuechly, Khalil Mack,

Chandler Jones, and Patrick Willis.

The three cornerbacks are Sherman, Darrelle Revis and Patrick Peterson. Safeties are Earl Thomas, Eric Weddle and Eric Berry. Selected as defensive backs, in recognition of slot cornerbacks and other versatile players in the secondary, are Chris

Harris Jr., and Tyrann Mathieu. "Honored to be named to the All-Decade team among this group of extraordinary men. I can't & won't speak for everyone on this list. But I know personally that each name on this team (& others who deserve to be) drove me to be better every single day!" Patrick Peterson tweeted.

Harris and former teammate Miller — Harris left the Broncos for the Chargers this offseason — both entered the NFL in 2011. Now they are together on the All-Decade squad.

"It's an honor and a great feeling to make the All-Decade Team with Von," said Harris, who was an undrafted free agent in 2011. "He's definitely worked extremely hard to get it. We came into the league together and he's one of those staple guys who have been great from the moment they stepped onto the football field and are still amazing. To get this honor with Von is a great feeling."

Tucker is joined by Stephen Gostkowski as placekickers. Shane Lechler and Johnny Hekker are the punters. Tyreek Hill and Sproles are the punt returners, while the kickoff returners are Cordarrelle Patterson and Devin Hester.

Carroll and Bill Belichick are the coaches.

Dave Ginsburg and Arnie Stapleton of the Associated Press contributed to this report.



## NFL going with virtual format for upcoming draft



STEVE HELBER/AP

By BARRY WILNER  
Associated Press

The NFL Draft will be conducted in a virtual format, with team personnel working from their homes.

In a memo sent to the 32 teams Monday, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell outlined procedures for the April 23-25 draft. The guidelines include no group gatherings.

"We have reviewed this matter in the past few days with both the competition committee and CEC (a group of league executives)," Goodell wrote, "and this will confirm that clubs will conduct their draft operations remotely, with club personnel separately located in their homes."

All team facilities were closed on

March 26 and Goodell has ordered them to remain shut indefinitely.

The draft was scheduled to be held in Las Vegas, but the NFL canceled all public events last month as a safeguard against the coronavirus. On Monday, Goodell instructed the teams on how they should plan to make their selections.

"We have made this decision for several reasons," he wrote. "All clubs will not have access to their facilities, which is contrary to the fundamental equity principle that all clubs operate in a consistent and fair way."

"Moreover, we want all NFL personnel to comply with government directives and to model safe and appropriate health practices. Our staff

will carry out its responsibilities in the same way, operating in separate locations outside of our offices. And after consulting with medical advisors, we cannot identify an alternative that is preferable from a medical or public health perspective, given the varying needs of clubs."

Several team general managers had sought a delay in the draft, basically citing an unfair playing field. But the owners pushed for the draft, the NFL's biggest offseason event, to take place as scheduled. It is up to each team to ensure not only safe and healthy conditions, but to offset any perceived competitive imbalance under the guidelines set forth by Goodell.

In a memo sent to the teams Monday, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell outlined procedures for a virtual format for the April 23-25 draft.



## SPORTS



## Virtual format

League personnel will conduct draft from their homes » **Page 23**



The Arizona Diamondbacks' Chase Field and 10 spring training sites are within 50 miles of each other.

PHOTOS BY ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP



Banners outside Chase Field in Phoenix tout the upcoming season and the Diamondbacks' offseason acquisition of pitcher Madison Bumgarner.

# Raising Arizona

## Sources: Phoenix area may host all games

BY RONALD BLUM  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Putting all 30 teams in the Phoenix area this season and playing in empty ballparks was among the ideas discussed Monday by Major League Baseball and the players' association.

The sides held a telephone call to talk about paths forward for a season delayed by the coronavirus pandemic, people familiar with the discussion told The Associated Press. They spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity because no details were announced.

Ideas are still in the early stage, and the Arizona option would have many obstacles to overcome, the people said.

"MLB has been actively considering numerous contingency plans that would allow play to commence once the public health situation has improved to the point that it is safe to do so,"

**'It allows for immediacy of a schedule, where you might be able to begin it and televise it.'**

Scott Boras  
Baseball agent

the commissioner's office said in a statement Tuesday. "While we have discussed the idea of staging games at one location as one potential option, we have not settled on that option or developed a detailed plan."

Baseball officials intend to study which options may be viable.

"While we continue to interact regularly with governmental and public health officials, we have not sought or received approval of any plan from federal, state and local officials, or the players' association," MLB said. "We are not ready at this time

**SEE RAISING ON PAGE 21**

## TO OUR READERS

As the sports world pauses to join the rest of the world in fighting the coronavirus pandemic, you will see fewer sports stories in Stars and Stripes. We look forward to resuming our normal coverage when the leagues and governing bodies determine it is safe for athletes and fans to return to competition.

